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Monday, August 17, 1987
Sravana 26, 1909 (Saka)

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(English Version)

Eighth Session

(Eighth Lok Sabha)

(Vol. XXX contains Nos. 61 to 70)

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LOK SABHA

Monday, August 17, 1987/Sravana 26, 1909 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: How is it that Professor Saheb is all alone today? Where have you left your colleagues?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: His colleagues have deserted him.

MR. SPEAKER: Sometimes it happens that someone among the colleagues marches forward all alone.

Shri Mohanty.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Drinking Water Programme

*285. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the drinking water programme is proceeding according to targets and schedule contemplated in the Seventh Plan;

(b) the percentage of drinking water tube-wells as are out of order or are not in use, State-wise; and

(c) the corrective initiatives taken by Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At Central level we do not monitor State-wise functioning of the tube-wells. However, a study by UNICEF has shown that on an average 80% of the tubewells are functioning in India.

(c) Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. State implements the programme both under ARWSP and MNP. However, it has been found that the handpumps and tubewells mostly fail due to lack of knowledge in drilling proper boreholes, maintenance of the submersible pumps and handpumps and due to depression of water table as a result of failure of monsoon. Central Government under Technology Mission has organised training programmes for Hydro-geologists, Geophysicists and drilling engineers. The Mission is also helping the State Governments in scientific source finding through the use of satellite imageries and surveys through Central Ground Water Board. The State Governments have been advised to involve the community in the maintenance of handpumps and tube-wells.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Sir, the Urban Development Minister had a meeting of different States in February 1987 and they have made a consensus recommendation to the Government, namely so far as the drinking water problem is concerned, it should be handled

by one agency and not by two agencies. Because it is being handled by two agencies, there has been a lot of confusion. Then, they have almost unanimously recommended to the Government that a Scheme should be introduced like ARWSP Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme for urban areas.

Sir, you are aware how the drinking water is scare in Delhi itself apart from other cities and so also about having a Corporation for financing the drinking water project. As a matter of fact, in the Seventh Plan, Rupees Fifty five crores had been allocated for this Corporation. But, there is no progress in that matter. Another thing is that there has been an imbalance in the use of ground water so far as the industry and irrigation are concerned vis-a-vis drinking water. These are the problems about which, there was a consensus recommendation to the Government. I know the Government have accepted all the recommendations. May I know what is the progress of it?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Mr Speaker, Sir, so far as the holding of the conference of Urban Development Ministers is concerned, my department is not concerned with it. I do not have any information about it and, therefore, I cannot throw any light on it.

The second point, which the hon. Member has raised, is regarding formation of a corporation. In the Department of Rural Development, we are thinking regarding supply of drinking water in rural areas. We do not propose to form a corporation, but the question of forming a Drinking Water Board is under our consideration.

So far as the question of use of underground water by industry in an imbalanced way is concerned, we have asked the State Governments to enact a proper law so that underground water could be used by industry in a proper way. At present, underground water is being used by industry in such a manner that the source of water dries up and this leads to shortage of water. It is our advice that State Governments should enact laws to regulate the use of water by industry.

[*English*]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: In reply to my question (b) 'the percentage of the drinking water tubewells as are out of order or are not in use, State-wise;' the State-wise figures have not been given. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the entire programme would be monitored by the Government of India or not? Or would it be like the case of an illegitimate baby who is thrown in the bath tub and nobody takes care of him? Does the Central Government monitor that the money is really spent and the tubewells are really functioning? That hon Minister has said that 80 per cent of the tubewells are functioning. But that is a very generalised Statement. I want the figures for that and that too State-wise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information regarding monitoring done by my Department is not available with me at present and, therefore, I cannot tell the percentage of tube-wells which are out of order in the rural areas, but UNICEF has conducted a survey according to which 80 per cent tube-wells in the villages are in working condition. We used to depend on our monitoring system ...*(Interruptions)* ... So far as the monitoring by the Department is concerned, till now we used to ask for a monthly report from the States about the amount spent by them out of the funds allocated to them, but we never asked them about their utilisation and about the functioning of tube-wells. Thereafter, we started calling for periodical reports instead of monthly reports. When the periodical reports were not to the satisfaction of the Department, the Department evolved its own monitor-

ing system under which we take up 360 villages in five blocks in 36 districts in a month and examine the sources. Our Government has got very good agencies and evaluation work is done by them. These agencies furnish the report about the number of tube-wells which are functioning, the number of people who have been benefited, the number of S.C. and S.T. people among them, the number of problem villages which have been covered and whether there are more than one source. It is also ascertained whether tube-wells are functioning or not and whether boring of tube-wells has been done properly or not. It is also found out whether the source has dried up. Our monitoring work has not been completed yet. It was started in the month of December. We will be able to cover all the districts of the country in a year and only then we will be able to get a clear picture...*(Interruptions)*

The final report would be available in December as this work would take one year. We want that with the process which we have adopted, we should cover all the States.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You might have got the report about 360 villages.

[*English*]

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: The agencies which are working on this project, they will submit to us cumulative reports.

MR. SPEAKER: You are replying to an unauthorised question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Technology Mission was constituted last year to solve the problem of drinking water in hilly areas and the drought-affected rural areas of the country and thereafter it started working in various parts of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the scientific suggestions given by the Technology Mission to meet the situation arising out of the serious drought and the shortage of drinking water prevalent in our country and other problems being faced by the States?

Many States have been facing continuous drought for the last two years. Our India Mark-II handpumps can draw water from a depth of 140 to 150 feet. This year water will have to be drawn a depth of 200 to 250 feet as water level has gone down much low. Keeping in view this difficulty, what scientific suggestions have been given by the Technology Mission?

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Sir, this Technology Mission has got its own methodology. There are different types of problems which the people in rural areas have to face. For instance, water has to be made potable. For this purpose, the Technology Mission has engaged scientific organisations and action is being taken through them. The task of the Technology Mission is to find out the scientific source to bring about improvement in the traditional methodology as also in the old methods of storing water and give suggestions to purify water if somewhere it is found filthy, saline or containing fluoride. Besides, the Technology Mission also suggests as to what changes should be made to make the drinking water system cost effective. This Mission also gives suggestions for making improvements in the maintenance methods.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: The water level has further gone down from 150 feet and now water has to be drawn out from a depth of 250 to 300 feet. May I know the action being taken by the Government in this regard and the view of the Technology Mission in regard thereto?

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: We have issued guidelines to the State Governments that wherever the water level is so low that water cannot be drawn out by means of handpumps, then these handpumps should be removed and installed at such places where water is available at a suitable depth.

[*English*]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Sir, actually by this time, all the problem villages had to be tackled, but it is a fact that several problem villages identified in Lists I and II, including some of the villages which are identified as chlorine-affected villages, are yet to be provided safe drinking water in our State and particularly in my constituency. Our Government has submitted proposals for sanction under ARWSP to the Government of India. I would like to know when is the Government of India going to clear those proposals and assure that the drinking water problem in these identified problem villages will be tackled, at least in the coming years

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: So far as water supply is concerned, no proposals are pending with us for clearance. During the period of such a crisis, the Department makes efforts to solve the problems whenever these are referred to it.

[*English*]

May I know which State you belong to?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: I am from Andhra Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: I have got the figures with me regarding funds. You need not worry, I have got the figures in respect of all the States. So far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, as per my records, nothing is pending. The funds allocated for the rural drinking water supply schemes have already been sanctioned.

[*English*]

SHRI T. BASHEER: In the context of present drought situation you may allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this. It is very important.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: May I put a question? It is no good saying that 80% of the wells are successful. What happens when well is not successful? What are the other sources of water supply to the villages? Therefore, to say that 80% wells will be successful, as per report, will not satisfy the people.

Now the unprecedented drought is there. What steps are the State Governments going to take to see that the drinking water is supplied to every village and to every villager?

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: For immediate supply of water we require money and at all levels we have cleared it. We have given money in advance. We have asked them to give us utilisation certificate and to get more money from us. We have also advised them

[*Translation*]

to protect the tanks and other water resources. They should see that water is not misused in any manner and all efforts are made to conserve it.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He is not asking for guidelines. He is asking for pipelines.

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: We have given. My friend Shri Makwana the other day announced it already.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shantaram Naik.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Before I say Q. 286, may I wish Shri Jagdish Tytler, who is supposed to reply, a very very happy birth day.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I

would like to thank him. But I hope he will not ask for concession.

MR. SPEAKER: Responsive answer

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The question was — is today your birth day?

Concessional fare for places of tourist interest

*286. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines grants air fare concession to tourists visiting certain tourist centres in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these places and percentage of tourist concession made available;

(c) whether a request to grant air-fare concessions to tourists visiting Goa has been made to his Ministry or to the Indian Airlines by the Goa Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The names of tourist places and details of tourist concessions offered by Indian Airlines are as follows:—

21 Days South India Excursion Fare:

30% discount on US Dollar tariff on any or all of the sectors of Madras, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai, Trivandrum, Cochin, Coimbatore and Bangalore for groups of 10 or more foreign tourists, and also for individual tourists in conjunction with travel from Colombo or Male.

Youth Discount:

25% discount is available on the US Dollar tariff on the domestic and Indo-Nepal sectors for passengers upto 30 years of age.

Srinagar Winter Group Discount:

For round trip travel between Delhi and Srinagar, 30% discount is available between 1st November and 31st March for groups of 4 or more passengers.

Off-season Tourist Fares:

Special fare for foreign tourists during off-season in the months of May, June, July and September, 1987 for travel between Delhi-Agra-Khajuraho-Varanasi and Delhi-Varanasi-Bhubaneshwar on all or any of the sectors with a discount of 20% on US Dollar Fare.

Kashmir Special Fares:

30% concession on the basic fare only for return leg of round-trip travel from Delhi/ Bombay/ Calcutta/ Madras/ Hyderabad/ Bangalore to Srinagar/Jammu from 1.5.87 to 31.10.87.

Indian Airlines also offers package-tours like 'Discover India', 'India Wonder', 'Tour India' etc. to promote tourism.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) After examination it was not found possible to accede to the request.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: The main part of my question was—

> "whether a request to grant air-fare concessions to tourists visiting Goa has been made to his Ministry or to the Indian Airlines by the Goa Government"

And the answer given to me is simply this—

> "After examination it was not found possible to accede to the request."

May I ask — in the light of his birth day

also, whether there is any fixed policy of giving this concession or not giving this concession? If so, what is the policy on the basis of which Goa has not been given air fare concession?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Naik, he is in the habit of receiving gifts on his birth day.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You may start from your own birth day.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We did receive a letter from the Chief Minister of Goa, wherein he had requested off season concession for Bombay-Goa. We examined his request. We found that the cost of operation on short route was expensive until and unless you have 100% capacity utilisation. I would like to inform the hon. Member that all the flights which are operating to-day to Goa on a total operating cost, they are going in a loss.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: You have mentioned so many places where this concession is available—Srinagar one of the main centres of tourism—Goa vis-a-vis Srinagar. What is the break up of profit of airlines?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the hon. member the break-even seats factor of the airline profit. The total operating cost of Airbus 300 is 94%, Boeing 737 is 87%. As far as Delhi-Srinagar is concerned, the total operating cost of Airbus is 76%, Boeing 737 is 71%. But what we have achieved today is that the average seat factor between Bombay and Goa is only 82% and 80%. These figures are for the last two months, that is, for August and September. But as far as Delhi-Srinagar is concerned, it is over 90%. So, if you look at the figure, the percentage figure for Srinagar which I have just now mentioned, you will find that Srinagar is still making money, even if we were to apply 76% which is the break-even figure; whereas we are going with 90% seat capacity. As far as Bombay-Goa is concerned, the break-even is 94% whereas we are going on 80% to 82%.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: It is said that concession cannot be given to Goa, for the tourists. May I know from the hon. Minister whether concession is given even on other considerations to the Directors and the Air India employees? How much percentage does this work out? Has the Government got any programme to reduce the fare for tourists?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We have a lot of package schemes for tourists all over the country just like 'Discover India Fair', 'India Wonder Fair', Tour India Scheme, 21-days South Indian Special Fair, Youth discount, Srinagar Tourist Discount, Group Discount and Off-season tourist fare, Kashmir Special Fare and so on. You know that Kashmir has been going through a lot of difficult times due to disturbed neighbouring State and practically their whole economy has gone down. It is only after we came back that their economy has been fairly recovering. But as far as the concession given to the employees of the Indian Airlines is concerned, I would make it clear that that is the part of the agreement.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: There is an allegation about the Directors giving concession and the misuse of such concessions and in that connection what you are going to do

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: As and when they misuse their authority and misuse the concession and when it is brought to our notice, we will take the strictest action.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Sir, I am also joining Mr. Shantaram Naik in greeting the hon. Minister on his birthday. But let me thank the hon. Minister for purposefully removing Andhra Pradesh from the tourist map of India, that is, the places of tourist importance in Andhra Pradesh. You have included in South India list of centres Madras, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai, Trivandrum, Cochin, Coimbatore and Bangalore.

But you have omitted Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam. There are some important sight seeing places in those cities. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will extend the same concession to Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam where a number of sight-seeing places are there.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I will look into it and we would like to help them as much as possible.

Allotment of DDA Flats

+

*288. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out by the DDA to allot flats to all the applicants in different categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. A time bound programme has been chalked out by the DDA to allot flats to all eligible registrants in different categories.

(b) As on 1.4.87, there were about 1,55,000 registrants awaiting allotment. The DDA has decided to complete about 28,700 houses in this year, and about 30,000 houses next year. The remaining houses required will be completed in the subsequent 5 years. In other words, flats will be allotted by the year 1994 to all the registrants in different categories.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to clause (b) above.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for many people in Delhi acquiring of flats or plots has become a business and many applicants get flats allotted first in their own names, then not only in the names of their wives and children, but also in the names of vegetables such as Aaru Singh, Singhara Singh, etc. By their getting flats allotted in fictitious names for making money, several genuine applicants are deprived of housing accommodation. In this connection, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government have constituted any committee to conduct a survey of all the allotments made by D.D.A. since its inception, if so, the action taken against the defaulters; if not, whether Government propose to constitute such a committee; and if so the action proposed to be taken against such defaulters?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, though the hon. Member's supplementary is different from the main question, yet I will answer it. Firstly, it is not correct that people get flats allotted in the names of vegetables. Still, if any such cases have come to his notice, he may bring them to our notice. We will certainly take action. The main question is in regard to the number of registrants awaiting allotment of D.D.A. flats. In this regard, I want to submit that from February 1967 to 1987, 1,37,916 flats have been constructed and 28,000 more will be ready during 1987-88. As regards the suggestion by the Member constitution of a committee, we have no such proposal under our consideration. The hon. Member has stated that some persons have got flats allotted in the names of vegetables, etc. In this connection, I am to say that if the names of such persons are brought to our notice, we will definitely take action against them.

SHRI DHARM PAL SINGH MALIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a proposal to construct a stadium after the name of Maharaja Surajmal at Nangloi in Delhi. Its boundary walls were constructed 3 years ago but no construction work has been done after that. I want to know from the hon. Minister the time by which the Maharaja Suraj Mal stadium will be completed keeping in view that there is shortage of

play grounds for young people of that area?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, I do not have the required information with me now. If the hon. Member wants, I will gave him this informaton separately.

MR. SPEAKER: You may put this question to the hon. Minister of Sports.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: My question is connected with this Ministry.

[*English*]

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, from the answer given by the hon. Minister, it is clear that there are 1,55,000 registration. If they are to deposit Rs. 5,000/- each, the amount that is received is Rs. 77 crores and if it is Rs. 10,000/-, the amount would be Rs. 155 crores. I just feel, having observed for the last two years, the Ministry must have been lacking the real understanding of the construction of the houses and giving them to the people. They are not giving these flats free of cost and the country is not lacking the resources of cement, brick or sand or local materials. It does not require any import of foreign exchange.

With all these facilities, the Government is only acting as an agency to lend some money to the persons who have registered and giving them land at a lesser rate. With all the facilities, I do not understand really why the Ministers are interested in passing on the information without constructing the houses which can be done not in 5 years or 4 years but in less than one year or two years. I request through you, one thing, whether the hon. Minister will think in terms of constructing these houses in the coming one year or he will just postpone giving replies for another 5 years to come.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, the hon Member has stated that all facilities and the required funds are available. In regard to this I want to state that there has been water problem this year and in Rohini we have developed plots and 76385 houses are under construction. Besides, there are 1200 cooperative societies to whom we are alotting 600 acres of land. But the difficulty is this that sometimes we have to face shortage of cement and other materials and sometimes power is also in short supply. Still we are making efforts to complete the work within the stipulated time.

[*English*]

SHRI K.S. RAO: Are you satisfied with the reply which they are continuously giving for the last 2½ years, without constructing the houses?

SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO: Yes, yes, there is consistency. No change.

MR. SPEAKER: Look here, your colleague is so much praising it!

SHRI A. CHARLES: Those employees working in the Central Government offices in Delhi and who come from other States are facing a lot of difficulties to find suitable accommodation. Under the normal circumstances, a Government employee may get a Government quarter only after he has put in about 20 or 25 years of service. That means on the verge of his retirement. Till then, they are not getting accommodation. You know, for a single room, Rs. 500/- is to be paid and the major portion of the salary is to be paid for rent alone.

Under the circumstances, may I know from the hon. Minister whether a scheme may be chalked out for the construction of a number of Government quarters on a time-bound basis so that at least during the first five years of the recruitment of the candidate here, he will be provided with a Government quarter?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The hon. Member is talking about the General pool. We are always making efforts to provide

accommodation to everyone. It is not true that employees get allotment of quarter after 20 or 22 years of service. 40 per cent of Government employees are residing in Government quarters. The hon. Member will also be glad to know that in Rajya Sabha, last week, in a reply to a question it was stated that from 1.7.1987 onwards, a flat rate would be charged on all Government accommodations. It will benefit the Government servants much. We are always making efforts in this direction. We have a proposal for a general housing scheme and to provide housing accommodation to more and more people and we shall also take your suggestion into consideration.

[*English*]

Minimum wages for agricultural labourers

*289. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake a review of the minimum wages for the agricultural labour;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to see that the Minimum Wages Act is implemented in real terms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, provides that the appropriate Government shall review at such intervals as it may think fit and intervals not exceeding 5 years, the minimum rates of wages and revise them, if necessary. However, the Labour Ministers' Conference (31st Sesssion) held in July, 1980, recommended that minimum wages should be reviewed and revised, if necessary, once at least in two years or on a rise of 50 points of the Consumer Price Index Number, whichever is earlier. The recommendation was brought to the notice of State Governments/Union Territories for necessary action. The subject of implementation of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 was discussed recently in the Labour Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi on 20 May, 1987. The conclusion of the Conference in this respect are given in the Annexure. The State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to take necessary follow-up action.

ANNEXURE

1. In order to raise the status of unorganised labour it is essential to implement the labour laws which most closely concern them. Among these are the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979; The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; the Child Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1986; the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; etc.

2. Minimum wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act should bear a relation to the concept of the "Poverty Line". After discussion, it was generally felt that a level of wages not lower than Rs. 11:00 per day should be fixed. It was indicated by many States that the minimum wages notified by them were already at or above this level.

3. The need for addition of specific employments in the schedule and periodical revision of minimum wages once in at least over 2 years or on a rise of 50 points of the Consumer Price Index Number, first set out by the 31st Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference in July, 1980, is reiterated. It is agreed that minimum wages, particularly, in respect of agricultural employment under the Minimum Wages Act, will be immediately reviewed

and new rates of minimum wages notified within six months, wherever required.

4. The difficulties in implementation of the Minimum Wages Act need to be specifically addressed, and ways found to remove these difficulties. Particularly, action will have to be directed towards the following;

(a) Removing the lack of awareness among labour as well as employers of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, and other Acts, affecting unorganised labour, through a substained publicity campaign both by the Central and the State Governments;

(b) Strengthening and upgrading the enforcement machinery of the State Governments with assistance from the Central Government as may be required;

(c) Ensuring that inspection staff have the necessary mobility by giving them transport facility and extending to them security in the course of their work involving enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act and other legislation governing agricultural and other labour especially in rural areas. Central Government may consider extending suitable assistance to State Governments for this.

(d) The assistance of other Departments of State Governments like the Revenue Department, Rural Development Department, Welfare and other Departments should also be taken, depending upon the conditions obtaining in individual States/Union Territories for the effective enforcement and implementation of the laws above mentioned.

5. Claims authorities under the Minimum Wages Act and other Acts would be appointed at the block levels to see that workers get relief quickly; also, prosecuting authorities should exist, ideally, at block level.

6. State level Advisory Boards and Tripartite Boards/Committees should meet regularly to review monitoring and implementation of the legislation governing unorganised labour.

7. In order to raise income levels of unorganised labour, States would also adopt an integrated approach involving increase in general awareness about the laws governing unorganised labour, acceleration of antipoverty programmes, accelerating employment generation programmes, and the enforcement of minimum wages.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Statement laid on the Table is good but nothing has been said in regard to the implementation of the Act. I asked in part (b) of the question: Whether the Minimum Wages Act would be implemented in real terms. We don't know whether you are going to implement it in real terms or not.

May I know whether the decision taken at the meeting of the Ministers of Labour held in 1980 that on 50 point increase in the Consumer Price Index, the previous rates would be revised. Has been implemented or not?

In the meeting of the Labour Ministers held in 1987, the minimum wage was fixed at Rs. 11. Although it is a state subject, but I would like to know whether any directions have been given to the State Governments in this regard and whether there is any machinery of the Central Government to see whether it is being implemented or not? The House should be informed about those States who have not implemented the Minimum Wages Act.

May I know what steps the Labour Ministry is taking to bring unorganised agricultural labourers in the organised sector? Due to unemployment, the agricultural labourers do not get proper wages and if some one dares to demand proper wages, he is

removed from the job and in his place other person is engaged. Therefore, merely conducting inspection is not sufficient. Even in this, a lot of blackmail is going on. I know a number of examples but I would like to know what efforts are being made to implement the Minimum Wages Act and to bring the agricultural labourers in the organised sector?

[*English*]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: As far as the agriculture sector is concerned, it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to implement the Minimum Wages Act. State Governments are the appropriate Governments.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: You are shirking your responsibility.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: No, no. But there are certain industries where the Central Government is the appropriate Government. For agriculture, with the exception of a few Government farms in the Agriculture University, it is with the State Government. It is true that minimum wages are not being implemented effectively. This is a fact which is known to everybody. The Labour Ministry commissioned a study on what are the reasons for the minimum wages not being implemented effectively in the agriculture sector. The Labour Bureau which made the study came out primarily with three reasons. Firstly, there was no awareness among the agricultural labourers themselves about what is the minimum wages and what the Minimum Wages Act means. They are ignorant of it. Therefore, even if they are paid less, they do not know that they are being paid less because they do not know the law.

Secondly, the State Governments lack effective enforcement machinery. The inspectorate that they have are not adequate and, therefore, it is not being able to enforce properly.

Thirdly, whatever enforcement machinery is available with the State Governments, their mobility was limited because they did not have transport facilities. This matter was discussed in the last Labour Ministers' Conference and in that Labour Ministers' Conference, we have come out with certain conclusions which I have annexed to the main answer. We have offered to the State Governments that in all these three aspects, the Central Government is willing to help the State Governments. We are awaiting their response.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: A number of study groups appointed by the Government have come to the conclusion that the labourers are not aware of the minimum wages. This is not true, because they are fully aware of the rates. But if they demand more wages, they are removed from the job. There is no guarantee of work for them

Secondly, at the time of fixation of prices by the Agricultural Prices Commission, the minimum wages are not kept in mind. May I know whether the hon. Minister will ask the Agricultural Prices Commission to calculate and take into account the minimum wages while fixing the prices? Will you make an announcement here in this respect?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA:Agricultural Price Commission deals with the price of agricultural products.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, the labour cost is more important.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I have admitted that the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act is not satisfactory. I have admitted that. We are trying to rectify the situation. There is no denial of that fact. We are trying to rectify the situation.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Excuse me, Sir.

[*Translation*]

When you recommend to the Agricultural Prices Commission to calculate, and take into account the minimum wages while fixing the price of the produce, the farmer will get fair prices accordingly. But if the farmer gets less prices, how the labourers will get more wages?

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Vikhe Patil, that has to be taken care of by the Agricultural Prices Commission as they are quite right enough to look into that matter.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, may I know whether the relevant Act has any provision in it which makes it obligatory for the farm worker to put in a certain number of hours of work each day to earn his minimum wages?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: There is a provision. It is for the State Governments to fix it. There is enabling provision.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Sir, it is sad that the Labour Minister has agreed that the payment of Minimum Wages Act has not been implemented in this country. I am citing one example. On receipt of a complaint, on 17th June 1987, I visited one tea estate in my constituency, which is situated in Hatikhuli in Jorhat District. I found that there were 106 female labourers working inside the factories. I asked one lady, who was more than 50 years of age, as to how much wages she is getting per day.

MR. SPEAKER: Is she an agricultural labourer?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: The lady replied to my question saying that she is getting Rs. 5.88 per day as wages and she has been working there for more than three years.

MR. SPEAKER: Does she come under the Agricultural Labour Act?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Sir, the tea plantation is divided into two parts—one is industrial and the other is that of agriculture.

MR. SPEAKER: For the present, we are concerned with agricultural labourers. Put the question which concerns agriculture.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: The second part of the question is regarding the Minimum Wages Act.

MR. SPEAKER: That is for Agriculture.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Sir, I would like to know whether this Act is implemented or not..*(Interruptions)*. Now, I come to my point. Their reply was that all these 106 ladies were not paid minimum wages—not only minimum wages but child labour wages. This is so according to the staff. A lady of 50 years is getting Rs. 5.88 per day as minimum wages, in a country like ours where there are many laws...

MR. SPEAKER: Put the question, now.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: May I know from the hon. Minister that as far as implementation of the Minimum Wages Act is concerned, whether he is going to take any steps so that this particular law is implemented in the country and particularly in the State of Assam...

MR. SPEAKER: That is all.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: I want a specific answer in this matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: My specific answer is this. The minimum wages fixed for agricultural labour by the Government of Assam is Rs. 12.50 as on 22.2.85. This is fixed. If somebody has got only Rs. 5.00 in your State, I think, the proper authority for you will be and you have to bring it to his notice—your own AGR Government in Assam.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The minimum wages for the agricultural labourer has been fixed at Rs. 11.00. What is the principle behind this? There are a number of cases where the minimum wages of the agricultural workers are much more than what has been fixed by the Conference of the Labour Ministers. What is the principle behind fixing this minimum wages?

And number 2, in the large number of blocks, there are no minimum wages factors..

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Don't say 'number 2', say 'and'.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Whether the Minister will see that all blocks of our country be provided with minimum wages factors so that they can see the implementation of minimum wages for the agricultural labourer?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: The Hon. Member has asked a very very important question. What is the basis of Rs. 11.00 is a very important question. Sir, on 20th of May when we met in the Labour Ministers' Conference, the minimum wages for agricultural labour ranged between Rs. 6.00 per day in Maharashtra to Rs. 19.50 in the State of Haryana. So, there was a wide gap between the minimum wages fixed by one State and another State. There has been a debate in the country whether the minimum wages fixed by the State Governments should not have any relation to the poverty line concept, and the demand was that no State Government should fix the minimum wages below the poverty line. That is number one. Number two, in order to avoid the wide disparity, there must be a national minimum wage policy. These were the two issues before the country and we were debating it for the last 15 years. The argument was this: there is a difference between the minimum wage and the poverty line concept; poverty line concept is based on the calorie requirements and on the basis of two-member earning in a total family of five; wage is only a component to the income of that family whereas the concept of poverty line is based on the income of the family; therefore, minimum wage and poverty line cannot be related together. We gave a lot of thought to it and in the Ministry we took the view and I was myself very keen — that whatever might be the arguments, the minimum wage should not be below the poverty line. I took that stand very firmly. The State Governments were not agreeable to it. It was discussed on a number of occasions. Therefore, I decided to have the Labour Secretaries' meeting one month before the Labour Ministers' Conference. We discussed it in the Labour Secretaries' Conference and they went back to the State Governments. They discussed for one month, and that is how we came to this. So, we agreed on principle in the Labour Ministers' Conference that the minimum wage should not be below the poverty line. We also agreed unanimously in that meeting that there must be a national minimum wage for agricultural labour. A figure of Rs. 11 was calculated on the basis of two members earning in a total family of five. Actually the calculation comes to Rs. 11 and five or ten naya Paise; I do not exactly remember — a few Paise more. But we thought: let us make it Rs. 11/-. Therefore, in a State like Maharashtra where it was only Rs. 6, in six months' time they have to go upto Rs. 11; it is a big jump. This is how the figure of Rs. 11 was arrived at. And I am happy to say that today at least there is a basis below which the State Governments will not go, because they have agreed to it. It amounts to more or less a national minimum wage. I agree with you, Rs. 11 is not at all enough because States have already gone to Rs. 19.50.

As far as Block level is concerned, your suggestion is very valid. We have decided in that Conference that we must have an infrastructure for enforcement of the minimum wage at the Block level and we followed the State of Gujarat where they have notified the Block Development Officer as the competent authority and all the Labour Ministers have agreed. So, we will soon provide that machinery at the Block level.

Passenger Service of Air India

*290. SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to improve passenger service of Air India, both on the ground and in the air;

(b) whether any monitoring is being done of complaints about the casual treatment and cavalier attitude of ground staff to passengers of Air India;

(c) whether any such cases have been brought to notice of Government;

(d) the details of such cases in 1987; and

(e) the penalties meted out to erring and mis-behaving staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) Improvement of services of Air-India is a on-going process. Air India makes constant efforts to provide better and more modern facilities to its passengers. Introduction of computerised ticketing/reservation systems, provision of special facilities for business/ first class passengers, and training of staff in dealing with passengers are some of the steps which have been taken to improve services, both on ground and in the air.

(b) All passenger complaints are analysed in the Passenger Relations Division of the Commercial Department. Remedial action, including disciplinary action is taken if responsibility of the Air-India staff is established.

(c) and (d). Complaints are received both in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Air-India. These complaints generally relate to staff attitudes, improvement in ground handling of passengers and inflight service.

(e) Penalties like withholding of increment, reduction in grade, withholding of portion of the efficiency bonus, issue of warning, etc., are imposed on the erring staff.

SHRI D.P. JADEJA: I join my colleague in wishing the hon. Minister a very happy Birth Day.

I would like to know this from him because the answer that he has given is of a very general nature. I would like to inform him that people who fly by Air India are doing so mainly because of the high reputation of the technical staff and the pilots who have a long experience. This is the principal reason why people fly by Air India.

As far as in-service matter is concerned, the service towards the foreigner is excellent. They are full of praise for it. But Indians who are not, I would say, recommended to the airlines find it a little difficult to get things what they want from the crew. But the in-flight service is also excellent. The complaint is mainly from the ground staff, more so, with the staff in the offices in different places. And the maximum complaint we receive is from London. It is difficult to contact anybody responsible in the London office at all. In view of this, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that the passengers who come by Air India normally come to Bombay and than go onwards to different places by Indian Airlines. They come to Bombay with OK ticket, with an OK on their Indian Airlines ticket also. But when they go to the Indian Airlines office, they are told that their name is not on the list whereby they find it difficult in going to these places especially to Cochin, Trivandrum and Hyderabad. These passengers suffer because the Air India agents abroad put these OK marks and send the passengers away. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what steps have been taken for a better coordination between Air India and Indian Airlines and the Air India agents?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, the Hon. Member has pointed out some of the fre-

quent complaints which we also receive. On the basis of these complaints, I have been constantly trying to improve the image of Air India and trying to provide more comfort and also see that the people who generally come from outside countries whether they are foreigners or the Indians returning homes are not put to difficulties. We have recently started computer services and we have connected the Indian Airlines computers with the Air India. After we have connected computers, these kinds of complaints are much less in number.Wherever it has been reported, wherever passenger who has had OK ticket bought from a local agent and if that has not been honoured by Indian Airlines, I have personally seen and gone into the complaints. I may tell you, these were frequent complaints before. But recently, the number has come down drastically and I think, in times to come, it will be completely eliminated.

SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Sir, my second question to the Hon. Minister would be regarding the Board of Air India. It was the practice earlier that this board was dominated more by bureaucrats. Lately you have introduced people from big business houses. Sir, these are two classes who always fly either at company account or at Government account and they do not have a real feed-back of the difficulties faced by the general public. Would the Minister consider having more public men on this Board for a better service in Air India?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, this is the experiment we did and we are just analysing the effect of that experiment. I will certainly keep your suggestion in view.

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that has it come to his notice that a large number of passengers were stranded at London Heathrow Airport even after having confirmed onward reservation, due to lack of proper co-ordination between Air India Booking Staff and the handling staff at the airport? I would like to know what action the Minister proposes to take to set right this state of affairs?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, this kind of problem exists in New York and London where we are over-booking, but that practice is done because the international tickets one does not cancel as there are cancellation charges. So, the people do not turn up and we have to suffer a huge loss. As a policy matter, it is not the Air India but all over the world, the international flights are over-booked. But whenever there is the instance of passengers being stranded, either because of a technical snag or some other reason, we make sure that they are put in a comfortable hotel next to the airport.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, whether it is a fact that some of the pilots have complained that some aircrafts which we have purchased from Singapore as second-hand aircrafts, are not giving proper service and as a result of that...

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, it does not relate to the original question.

MR. SPEAKER: He is taking over my duty.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Can I know, what the Deputy Speaker is saying, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: He is in the post of Chairman, sir.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I would like to know whether some pilots have complained that the aircrafts, which were purchased from Singapore as second-hand aircrafts, does not give proper service to the passengers and as a result of that, to be very concrete on 16 July, 1987 the Air India flight which was to fly from Bombay via Delhi was grounded and as a result of that some other aircraft was to be used proving that the complaint was correct. If it is so, what steps are you

taking, at least in the future, to avoid purchase of second hand aircrafts?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, first of all I would like to inform the hon. Member that it was not the pilot who complained about this particular crack. We got the information, rather I got the information from Singapore that this aircraft has...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Forget that pilot, take it as my complaint.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: But this was a minor thing and it took few hours to repair that. As far as I know, there has not been any complaint to us of this sort. Where we find that passengers were put to inconvenience because the flight could not start in time, another aircraft was used.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have concretely given the date and the flight, you can check it up.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Yes, I will check it up.

SHRI D.N. REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I ask the supplementary, I seek permission to make a submission. Some of the few silent members....

MR. SPEAKER: Is this under 377?

SHRI D.N. REDDY: I seek permission to make submission for only one minute. All the silent Members who have been obediently raising their hands every time to ask for a supplementary but Sir, unfortunately are not able to catch the eye of the Chair....

MR. SPEAKER: There are 544 Members. Naturally, I have to see all of them. I know you are very eager, but I cannot help it.

SHRI D.N. REDDY: One of my colleagues has advised me that it is not enough to raise my voice, but I have to shout and outshout some of the Members to catch the eyes and the ears of the Chair. Can you advise me to follow their advice or just silently observe the Members who by their noise dominate the House? I would request you to please give a chance to those Members who silently obey the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a question of noisy scene; in the Question Hour everybody does it. If you were to be in the Chair, I think you would do the same thing because you cannot do it all the time, you cannot call everybody at every time. If you can do it, I will be your *Chela!*

SHRI D.N. REDDY: In the present Session, this is the first time that I am getting a chance to ask a supplementary; I am very sorry for it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I would suggest that don't keep your eyes steady, try to wink!

SHRI D.N. REDDY: I may be mistaken by the lady Members.

MR. SPEAKER: If that is not unparliamentary, I will allow!

SHRI D.N. REDDY: Coming to the supplementary, though today is the birthday of the Hon. Member, I am sorry to say that I have to pass a disperaging remark about his Department.

Especially in the last three months the punctuality of flights and the catering have been bad and they are becoming worse. I don't know the reason why the punctuality of getting off of the planes has been so bad in the last three months. I had to return from the airport twice or thrice because the 5.40 flight which goes from here to Hyderabad and then to Madras was late by two or three hours. I hear the same thing from other passengers also.

As far as the catering is concerned, I remember that a few months back a petition signed by some ten MPs both from Madras and Hyderabad complaining about the catering of the Hotel Samrat Complex had been given to you. There, the

food was very very bad I am told by the staff that I have to pay nearly 40 to 50 rupees for that catering. I am not quite sure how much you take. You should improve the catering and improve the punctuality of the flights also.

Today is your birthday, please keep your word. Don't give an empty promise.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the Hon. Member that the question originally relates to the Air India; but anyway he had put a question on Indian Airlines. I would like to take this opportunity to inform all the Hon. Members that as for the Air India's punctuality, I think it is one of the best in the world. If I were to give the figures... *(Interruptions)*

He has not heard me. I have said that he has put a question on Indian Airlines. But because the question relates to Air India, I would take this opportunity to inform the House that the on-time performance of Air India is one of the best in the world.

Coming back to the question which he has put, I would like to inform him that no Airlines officer or a G.M. or a Chairman or the Minister would like to have an aircraft on the ground even for five minutes because it is a total loss for us; even a minute costs us. If it is on a technical reason, or for certain reasons beyond the control of the pilots or engineers, then I am sorry, nobody could help it.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is happening everyday.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: As far as food is concerned, initially there was a lot of complaint about it. Wherever it had been brought to my notice, I made it sure myself personally that the Regional Director was responsible for lifting of the food to any particular region. If there is any particular problem, I would like to put that also right.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY: Air India is one of the best in the world and Indian Airlines is the worst in India!

Refinance support for Financing Tractor owners by NABARD

*292. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has drawn up a new scheme to extend refinance support for financing tractor-owners to undertake major repairs of tractors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). In order to ensure optimum use by prolonging the economic life of tractors, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has introduced a scheme of refinance for renovation/replacement of important spare parts of tractors from 1st July, 1987. The terms and conditions for such refinance are as follows:—

Eligibility of loan

(i) Only those farmers who had purchased tractors earlier through bank finance and had fully repaid their loans will be eligible for obtaining loans for repairs of their tractors from the branches of the same bank.

(ii) The tractor for the repair of which loan is to be obtained should be more than 7 years old but should not be older than 12 years form the date of manufacture.

(iii) Bank loan for the purpose will be available once only.

(iv) The total amount of loan under the scheme to be issued by each bank should not exceed *10 percent* of the allocation given to it under Farm Mechanisation Programme for that year. However, the refinance to banks for renovation/replacement/ repair will be in addition to allocation for regular farm mechanisation programme.

(v) The repairs of the damage caused to tractors due to accidents will not be financed.

Extent of loan

The total loan for renovation/repairs of tractors consisting of replacement of spare parts should not exceed Rs. 25,000/- and in very exceptional cases, where the entire engine is to be replaced following the recommendations of the authorised service centre of the manufacturer or their dealer, a maximum loan of Rs. 45,000/- (being the cost of the new engine and the cost of repairs and spare parts) can be considered.

Down payment

Down payment in respect of loans for repairing of tractors will not be less than 30% of the cost of repairs.

Repayment period

Maximum period for repayment of the loan will be 5 years.

Agency for undertaking repair

(i) The tractors would be got repaired in a service centre of the authorised dealer appointed by the manufacturer of the particular make or from Agro-service centres of the State Agro-Industries Corporation.

(ii) Payment would be made by the bank directly to the service station towards the cost of the repairs and the cost of the spare parts.

Hypothecation of the tractor

The repaired tractors covered by the loan would be got hypothecated to the financing bank and such hypothecation would be registered with the Regional Transport Authority.

Insurance

The tractors would be adequately insured and the relative policies would be got assigned in favour of the bank and it would be registered with the insurance company.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Private Sector in the field of Brackish Water Fish Farming

*287. DR. V. VENKATESH
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have permitted the private sector to exploit the field of brackish water fish farming areas, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Union Government have impressed upon the maritime States to evolve a land-use policy that would provide for leasing of lands to private entrepreneurs; and

(c) if so, the reaction of maritime States to the above suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) The Union Government have recently sanctioned a scheme for establishing Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies under which farmers/fishermen having brackishwater land would be assisted through the State Governments to develop

brackish water fish farming. The following pattern of financial arrangement is proposed:—

(i) 75% of the capital cost either for renovation or new construction of the brackishwater fish farm to be borne by the beneficiary.

(ii) 25% of the capital cost and total cost of inputs for the first crop will be provided as subsidy to the beneficiary. The subsidy would be shared equally by the State and the Centre subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000 per hectare.

(b) Yes, Sir. It has been recommended that 50% of the available brackishwater area should be set apart for individual fishermen, groups of fishermen and fishermen's cooperative societies and the remaining area for public sector and private sector entrepreneurs for taking up semi-intensive and intensive shrimp farming. It has been further recommended that the period of lease should be 15 years which would be renewable after satisfactory completion of the terms and conditions of the lease.

(c) Gujarat, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh have formulated long term leasing policy as per the guidelines. Other maritime States are also taking appropriate action in the matter.

Operation of Foreign Chartered Trawlers

*291. SHRI R.S. MANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of chartered fishing trawlers operating on Eastern and Western zone, separately; and

(b) whether Government propose to induct more such chartered, trawlers by the end of 1987; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) The number of chartered fishing trawlers operating in the Western Zone is 30. No chartered fishing trawlers are operating at present in the Eastern zone.

(b) Yes, Sir. After a review of the charter policy, Government issued public notices in January, 1987 and June, 1987 inviting applications for chartering of foreign fishing vessels. Applications received in response to these public notices are being processed.

Scheme by NSC for seed distribution

*293. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seeds Corporation has formulated a scheme for the distribution of High Yielding Variety Seeds of various crops to farmers during the current year;

(b) the farms in which these seeds have been grown and whether any foreign expertise has been obtained in this respect;

(c) the High Yielding Varieties of seeds procured by the National Seeds Corporation; and

(d) the mode of distribution of these seeds amongst farmers and the agency employed for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Seeds Corporation (NSC) has formulated a plan for distribution of 470329 quintals of certified seeds of high yielding varieties of various crops to the farmers during the current year.

(b) The NSC is producing different classes of seeds in their three farms located at Nandikotkur (Andhra Pradesh), Sainj (Himachal Pradesh) and Bangalore (Karnataka). In addition, the NSC procures seeds of high yielding varieties through private contract growers, State Seed Corporations, Agricultural Universities, Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutions and State Farms Corporation of India farms in different States. NSC has not

obtained any foreign expertise for production of these certified seeds in the last two years.

(c) The NSC has produced/procured the following quantities of seeds of high yielding varieties during the year 1986-87:—

S. No.	Crop groups	Quantity in quintals (estimated)		
		Breeder	Foundation	Certified
1.	Maize	0.60	1257	15515
2.	Sorghum	0.75	975	1000
3.	Bajra	0.75	388	7797
4.	Wheat	735.00	11000	130000
5.	Paddy	175.00	7238	101398
6.	Pulses	586.40	4228	49169
7.	Oilseeds	1688.00	5220	18948
8.	Fodder	69.00	178	4479
9.	Fibre	4.70	125	230
10.	Vegetables	7.44	799	5391
11.	Potato	1200.00	8583	1612
	TOTAL	4467.64	39991	335539

(d) The seeds are distributed by the NSC through its own sale counters located in different States, dealers appointed by the NSC, Cooperatives, the State Seed Corporations and State Departments of Agriculture.

Prices of black Pepper

*294. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of black pepper have risen quite substantially during the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the figures of production of black pepper during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986;

(d) the steps being taken to increase its production;

(e) whether Government are aware that businessmen are hoarding the black pepper and creating artificial scarcity just to increase the price of black pepper; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the prices of black pepper?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The main reason for increase in the prices of black pepper is the decline in its production in major producing countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, Brazil and Madagascar and the consequently higher demand for Indian black pepper in the world markets.

(c) The All-India production estimates of

black pepper during the crop years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 are 22.7, 18.2 and 30.4 thousand tonnes respectively.

(d) The following schemes have been approved for development of pepper in various States during the remaining 3 years of the Seventh Plan:—

1. Production and Distribution of Rooted Cuttings of High Yielding Pepper Varieties;

2. Establishment of Model Gardens for High Yielding Pepper Varieties;

3. Distribution of Input Kits and Sprayers to Small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Pepper Production;

4. Field Demonstration of Pepper;

5. Rehabilitation of Pepper Gardens in Kerala.

(e) and (f). Black pepper is being encouraged as an export-oriented commodity. Because of short supplies of black pepper in the world markets, farmers and traders are reported to be currently holding back their stocks, in anticipation of fetching better prices through exports in the coming months.

Construction of roads in dacoit infested areas of Rajasthan

*295. SHRI JUJHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the construction of roads in the dacoit infested areas of Rajasthan;

(b) the details of the roads constructed;

(c) whether any amount has been spent in the dacoity prone areas of Shahbad and Chabra sub-divisions of Kota district where the cases of dacoity are as common and the road communication most undeveloped; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) to (d). There is a scheme for construction of roads in Special Problem Areas in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Under this scheme, during 1985-86 an amount of Rs. 1.04 crore was released to the Government of Rajasthan, which was to provide an equal amount as its share. Out of the total availability of funds of Rs. 2.08 crores, the State Government had spent an amount of Rs. 1.17 crores upto the end of February, 1987.

A Statement is given below which shows the road/bridge works sanctioned so far. According to the progress report received from the State Government upto the period ending February, 1987; 75 kms. of the roads have been tendered and earth work on 21 kms. of road is in progress. The material collection for metalling and cross drainage works are also in progress.

No amount has been spent on works in Shahbad and Chabra sub-divisions of Kota district as these sub-divisions do not find place in the first priority works selected by the State Government based on most essential requirement of police authorities keeping in view the area of operation and the degree of crime in these areas.

STATEMENT

Road/bridge works sanctioned in Rajasthan under the scheme of construction of roads in Special Problems Areas of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

Name of the Road/Bridge	Length (Kms.)
ROADS	
DHOLPUR DISTRICT:	
1. Bassi Dang-Nanger LR-13	9
SWAI MADHOPUR DISTRICT:	
2. Chanderlipur—Ondh FR-5	10
3. Nandral—Ondh LR-6	15
TOTAL	34
BRIDGE	
One bridge over river Chambal in Swai Madhopur District (Tehsil Karauli)	
LETERAL ROADS	
1. Nanger to Saharo LR (14)	5.00
2. Saharo to Mroli LR (15)	6.00
3. Maykund to Mroli LR (16)	7.00
4. Dholpur to Busroli LR (17)	5.00
5. Busroli to Bhasina LR (18)	5.00
6. Bhasina to Kuthina LR (19)	14.00
7. Baral Utgir LR (2)	16.00
8. Utgir to Karanpur LR (3)	14.00
9. Karanpur to Rodhair LR (4)	28.00
10. Rodhai to Mandrol LR (5)	14.00
11. Aundh to Bhompura LR (7)	7.00
	121.00
FEEDER ROADS	
1. Summarthura to Sansaka Gurja LR (8)	27.00
2. Sovghapali to Sansaka Gurja LR (0)	8.00
3. Gajpura to Basaidang LR (3)	10.00

Name of the road	Length (Kms.)
4. Rajkhara to Samona FR (6)	8.00
5. Rajkhara Silavat to Pinhat FR (7)	8.00
6. Chandailipurato Sharamthura FR (6)	14.00
7. Kailadevi to Karanpura Marg FR	24.00
	99.00
TOTAL	220.00

Resumption of fertilizer import

*296. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to resume fertilizer import;

(b) if so, the fertilizers to be imported and the names of the countries;

(c) whether such imports will affect the indigenous production; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) and (b). Potassic fertilizers are imported on a regular basis to meet the assessed requirement as there are no known indigenous sources of this material. Import of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers is planned to bridge the gap between the assessed demand and expected indigenous production. However, some quantities of urea and DAP are planned to be imported during the second half of the current year to meet contractual obligations.

It would not be in the public interest to disclose the countrywise quantities of fertilizer materials planned to be imported during 1987-88.

(c) and (d). The import of fertilizers is not expected to have adverse impact on the indigenous production as the indigenous stocks will have priority over the imported fertilizers for distribution and sale under the ECA allocations.

[*Translation*]

Defect in Korba Doordarshan Transmission

*297. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to mechanical defect in Korba (Madhya Pradesh), Doordarshan Transmission National network programmes are not clearly visible in this area;

(b) if so, the time by which this defect will be removed;

(c) whether late night adult films are not being relayed from Korba Doordarshan centre; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this egard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). It was observed sometime back that the transmission from Korba TV transmitter was not satisfactory. The matter was looked into by Doordarshan Engineers and it was found that the transmitting antenna had developed certain mechanical faults. These defects have since been removed and the transmitter is now performing satisfactorily. Nevertheless, as a long term measure, it has been decided to replace the transmitting antenna so that similar faults do not recur.

(c) and (d). Though it is envisaged to

telecast late night films from the Korba TV transmitter also, no definite date has been fixed for this.

[*English*]

Inclusion of prior informal consent clause

*298. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food and Agricultural Organisation is finalising code on pesticides to which India is a party;

(b) whether an International Organisation, Pesticide Action Network, Penang, Malaysia has been pleading for inclusion of "Prior Informal Consent" (PIC) clause to ensure that importing countries are fully informed of the dangers and hazards of products imported; and

(c) whether India has decided to support inclusion of PIC clause in the Food and Agricultural Organisation Code?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) The Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) has already adopted "The International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides" in the 23rd Session of the FAO Conference held in Rome in November, 1985. India is a party to the adoption of the said Code.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No such decision has been taken The Prior Informal Consent clause has little relevance to India as our country has already got a comprehensive legislation and registration procedure/system for pesticides. The object of ensuring that the importing countries are fully informed of dangers and hazards of insecticides is already achieved in our country under the provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968. There is a mandatory requirement for registration of insecticides both for import and manufacture in the country; and the Registration Committee constituted under the Act for considering registration is to satisfy itself about the safety and efficacy of insecticides before the grant of registration.

New Technology for seed treatment

*299. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether plant physiologists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute have developed a new technology of seed treatment of wheat before sowing;

(b) if so, the salient features of the technology;

(c) the areas where this new technology has been introduced; and

(d) the extent to which the new technology will help in obtaining production of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Coordination with National/State Akademies in formulation and production of programmes

*300. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Radio/Doordarshan coordinate their activities with the National/State Akademies regarding planning, formulation and production of various programmes in regional and tribal languages and dialects;

(b) if so, the names of the programmes and other Advisory Committees on which representation has been given to the National and State Akademies as on date,

(c) whether Government have considered that all these Committees should have representation from the Akademies in cases where there is no representation at present; and

(d) if so, the likely date by which it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d). The nature and field of activities of AIR/Doordarshan and the National/ State Akademies are different. However, depending upon the programme requirements of individual stations, informal consultations are conducted with the State Akademies in planning and production of programmes including those in regional and tribal languages and dialects. They are also invited for participation in programmes.

There is no fixed representation for members of the Akademies on the Programme Advisory Committees of the Stations. However, some of the members connected with the different Akademies have been associated with the Programme Advisory Committee and the Music Audition Board at Delhi.

The main purpose of AIR/Doordarshan is to communicate to the masses while the main function of these Akademies is to promote music and dance, literature and fine-arts. The Programme Advisory Committees of Stations/Kendras have generally two or three non-official members to represent the interests of literature/art and culture/music. In view of this, it is not felt necessary to give separate representation to such Akademies on the Programme Advisory Committees of Stations/Kendras.

Identification of work related diseases

*301. SHRI CHINTAMANI MAHATA:
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since identified the work related diseases; and

(b) if so, the list of the diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A schedule attached to the Factories Act, 1948 contains a list of 22 notifiable diseases. By the Factories (Amendment) Act, 1987, which is yet to come into force, 7 more notifiable diseases have been added to the schedule. A list of all these notifiable diseases is given in the Statement below. The notifiable diseases under the Mines Act, 1952 and the Dock Workers (Safety, Health & Welfare) Scheme, 1961 have also been included in this list.

STATEMENT

List of notifiable diseases

1. Lead poisoning, including poisoning by any preparation or compound of lead or their sequelae.
2. Lead tetra-ethyl poisoning.
3. Phosphorus poisoning or its sequelae.
4. Mercury poisoning or its sequelae.
5. Manganese poisoning or its sequelae.
6. Arsenic poisoning or its sequelae.
7. Poisoning by nitrous fumes.
8. Carbon bisulphide poisoning.
9. Benzene poisoning, including poisoning by any of its homologues, their nitro or amido derivatives or its sequelae.
10. Chrome ulceration or its sequelae.
11. Anthrax.
12. Silicosis

13. Poisoning by halogens or halogen derivatives of the hydrocarbons of the aliphatic series.

14. Pathological manifestations due to—
a) radium or other radio-active substances.
b) X—rays

15. Primary epitheliomatous cancer of the skin.

16. Toxic anaemia.

17. Toxic jaundice due to poisonous substances.

18. Oil acne or dermatitis due to mineral oils and compounds containing mineral oil base.

19. Byssionosis

20. Asbestosis

21. Occupational or contact dermatitis caused by direct contact with chemicals and paints. These are of two types, that is, primary irritants and allergic sensitizers.

22. Noise induced hearing loss (exposure to high noise levels)

23. Beriyllium poisoning.

24. Carbon monoxide.

25. Coal miners' pnoumoconiosis.

26. Phosgene poisoning.

27. Occupational cancer.

28. Isocyanates poisoning

29. Toxic nephritis.

Note: 1. S. Nos. 23 to 29, which have been notified by the recent amendment to the Factories Act have not yet been enforced.

2. Diseases mentioned at S.No. 12, 20, 25 & 27 have been notified under the Mines Act, 1952 also.

3. Diseases mentioned at S. Nos. 2, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 25 have been notified under the Dock Workers (Safety, Health & Welfare) Scheme, 1961 also.

Promulgation of Milk & Milk Products Order

*302. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether promulgation of Milk and Milk Products Order under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1954 is pending with Union Government for quite some time, if so, the reasons for the delay;

(b) whether the National Dairy Development Board has submitted the revised draft of Milk and Milk Products Order to Union Government in July, 1985; and

(c) the time by which Milk and Milk Products Order is likely to be promulgated?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The draft Milk & Milk Products Order was circulated to the State Governments for comments. On the basis of the comments received another draft Order has been drafted in July, 1987 by NDDB.

(c) It is not possible to indicate precisely at this stage the time by which Milk and Milk Products Order will be promulgated as the revised version of the proposed Order needs to be examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of transmitter for broadcast for Indians living abroad

*303. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are consider-

ing the setting up of a special transmitter for broadcast of programmes in Hindi and other Indian languages for the Indians living in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The 6th Plan of AIR included the setting up of 2x500 KW SW transmitters at Bangalore and 2x250 KW SW transmitters at Khampur, Delhi for strengthening the existing external services of AIR. Both these schemes are under implementation and the transmitters are expected to be installed during 1989.

The 7th Plan of AIR includes establishment of 4 Nos. of 500 KW SW transmitters at Bangalore for further strengthening of AIR's existing external services and 2 Nos. of 250 KW SW transmitters at Panaji for a new service to Gulf countries. AIR in its external services already broadcasts Programmes in 7 Indian Languages namely, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Sindhi, Punjabi, Tamil and Urdu. In addition, schemes to start a daily service in Telugu for South East Asia and services in Malayalam and Hindi directed to the Gulf countries are also proposed to be introduced. However, no new transmitter is proposed to be installed exclusively for these services.

[*English*]

Telecast of 'Yoga for Health' programme

*304. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any 'Yoga for Health' programmes are proposed to be telecast by Doordarshan and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Doordarshan is already telecasting a programme of simple Yoga Aasans twice a week in its morning transmission, which is relayed by all the Kendras of Doordarshan. There is no proposal to introduce another programme 'Yoga for Health' for the present.

[*Translation*]

Sickness in fertilizer units

*305. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA
DR. CHINTA MOHAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fertilizer industry may face crisis in view of the possible decline in demand/consumption of fertilizers, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 16 April, 1987;

(b) whether decline in demand is likely to be due to adverse weather conditions and consequent piling up of stocks; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to meet this situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) and (b). Due to unfavourable weather conditions during the last three years in a row, the fertilizer consumption has been below the targetted levels. Therefore, the stocks of indigenous fertilizers have gone up.

(c) Indigenous fertilizers are being given priority over imported fertilizers for meeting the demand for fertilizers during Kharif 1987. To reduce the inventory carrying costs of the indigenous industry, imported fertilizers will not be released for sale, as far as possible, so long as the indigenous stocks can meet the entire demand. Import of fertilizers has been drastically reduced during 1987-88.

[*English*]

Targets and achievements of housing sites by states

*306. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have made any review of the State-wise performance during the Sixth Five Year Plan of the targets of providing house sites to the poor;

(b) if so, the targets set by different States including Maharashtra to provide house-sites to the poor during that period; and

(c) the details of the achievements made?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement indicating state-wise targets and achievements by different States including the State of Maharashtra in respect of the scheme of allotment of house sites to the rural landless workers during the Sixth Five Year Plan is given below

STATEMENT

Targets and Achievements of different States under the scheme of allotment of house sites to rural landless workers during the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85).

	States/UTs	House Sites		
		Target	Achievement	%age
1		2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,10,000	15,49,726	139.61
2.	Assam	2,30,000	81,698	35.52
3.	Bihar	16,80,000	85,987	5.11
4.	Gujarat	2,00,000	4.07,570	203.78
5.	Haryana	1,20,000	95,090	79.24
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	739	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	10,000	2,151	21.51
8.	Karnataka	3,50,000	4,17,796	119.37
9.	Kerala	2,70,000	22,641	8.38
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3,50,000	1,36,512	39.00
11.	Maharashtra	90,000	1,77,362	197.06
12.	Orissa	3,20,000	1,27,197	39.74
13.	Punjab	60,000	4,930	8.22
14.	Rajasthan	1,90,000	3,46,201	182.21

1		2	3	4
15.	Tamil Nadu	13,20,000	13,27,408	100.56
16.	Tripura	20,000	24,071	120.35
17.	Uttar Pradesh	3,70,000	5,55,332	150.08
18.	West Bengal	60,000	40,401	67.33

Note: Scheme is not in operation in Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland & Sikkim.

Soil degradation in India

*307. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area which is subject to soil erosion; and

(b) the total land area being degraded due to other factors, like salinity, alkalinity etc.?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) An estimated area of about 175 million hectares in the country is affected by soil erosion and land degradation.

(b) Area affected by salinity and alkalinity etc., is as under:—

Problem		Area in million ha.
Water & Wind erosion	—	150.00
Shifting cultivation	—	4.33
Waterlogged area	—	6.00
Saline soils including coastal sandy areas	—	5.50
Alkali soils	—	2.50
Riverine and Torrents	—	2.73
Ravines and gullies	—	4.00
		175.06

"Choose your career campaign, 1987" scheme

*308. DR. G.S. RAJHANS:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Employment Delhi Administration Delhi has recently inaugurated "Choose Your Career Campaign 1987", Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme; and

(c) to what extent the new scheme will provide jobs to the youth in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c). The 'Choose Your Career Campaign' is an annual feature of the Vocational Guidance Programme of the Directorate of Employment, Delhi Administration, Delhi. The main objective of this programme is to create awareness among the students and the job seekers about the employment implications of the various courses/studies, so as to facilitate a better adjustment between manpower supply and demand. The Campaign is generally organised at the Employment Exchanges in Delhi immediately after the declaration of school/college examination results. During the campaign, students and job-seekers are exposed to various facets of the world of work including educational and vocational courses, training facilities available, avenues for self-employment etc. The aim of the campaign is not to provide jobs, but to provide information and guidance for a proper choice of career.

Ban on export of animal feeds

3110. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban all exports of animal feeds and also ban commercial imports under Operation Flood III; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). According to the policy, the exports of expeller cakes, (all varieties) except cotton Seed Expeller Cakes are not normally allowed. The Export Policy for other animal feed items namely De-oiled Rice Bran (Rice Bran extraction), De-oiled Groundnut cake (extraction), Solvent extracted Cotton Seed cakes (decorticated and undecorticated) is restrictive and they are allowed for exports only within limited ceilings. However, the export of Soyabean extractions/meal is allowed freely against registration of contracts with the Soyabean Processors Association of India. In taking a view on allowing or restricting the export of extractions/meal, the Government keeps in view a number of considerations including the internal requirements of oil-meals/extractions, edible oil, the viability of oil seed production and processing, the need of maximising foreign exchange earnings etc. Since the imports under Operation Flood III project envisage receipt of gift commodities from the European Economic Community, the question of commercial imports under the project as such at this stage does not arise.

Housing loans to Banks Officials

3111. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether housing loan limits of Central Government officials have been increased recently by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the officers of nationalised banks are also entitled for the increased housing loan limits as applicable to Central Government officials; and

(d) if not, whether a similar notification is likely to be issued for officers of nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government servants are now eligible for maximum advance of 50 months' basic pay limited to Rs. 2.50 lakhs

(c) Housing loan limits increased recently for Central Government officials

are not applicable to officers of nationalised banks.

(d) Enhancement of housing loan limits as well as the terms and conditions of housing loan to the officers of nationalised banks is considered by the Ministry of Finance taking into account such changes which are applicable to Central Government employees from time to time and suitable guidelines issued, if found necessary.

Formulation of action plan for surfacing of roads in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

3112. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether any action plan has been framed for surfacing of roads to preserve the rural orientation of the economy and to develop smaller urban areas particularly in the Eastern U.P., where the rural road network falls very much short of the desired standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): According to the Government of Uttar Pradesh, no such action plan has been framed.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Akashvani Kendra in Banswara-Doongarpur

3113. SHRI PRABHU LAL RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal of setting up an Akashvani Kendra in Banswara-Doongarpur;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. AIR in its 7th Plan, has included a scheme to set up a local radio station at Banswara with 2x3 KW FM transmitter, multi-purpose studios, receiving facilities and staff quarters.

(b) The proposed radio station is expected to be ready during 1989.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Integrated Industrial relations bill

3114. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) when do Government propose to introduce an Intergrated Industrial Relations Bill;

(b) whether representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations were consulted before drafting the Bill; and

(c) if so, what is the response from these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) It is proposed to bring forward comprehensive legislation as soon as possible.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposals for amendment to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the Trade Unions Act, 1926 evoked different responses from the Central Trade Union Organisations. Some have welcomed the proposals, while others have expressed some reservations concerning specific aspects of the proposals.

Allotment of foodgrains to Maharashtra under NREP

3115. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains demanded by Maharashtra under the National Rural Employment Programme during 1986-87;

(b) actual quantity of foodgrains allotted; and

(c) the steps Governemnt are taking to meet the demand of Maharashtra Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c). Government of Maharashtra decided to utilise only 1 kg. of foodgrains per manday under National Rural Employment Programme during 1986-87. Their total requirement on this basis for the year 1986-87 worked out to 22,400 MTs. As against this, a quantity of 79,900 MTs of wheat was allocated to the State for the year.

Second channel of Calcutta Doordarshan

3116. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the progress so far made in regard to the establishment of Second Channel for Calcutta Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): The transmission equipment for Second Channel service at Calcutta has been received at site and its installation taken up.

Airstrip at Amarpur, Tripura

3117. SHRI AJOY BISWAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to open a new Airstrip in South Tripura preferably at Amarpur considering the difficulties of the people of that area particularly during rainy seasons; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to open a new airstrip in South Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Amount spent by DDA on resettlement and J.J. Colonies

3118. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Delhi Development Authority during the last five years, year-wise on the maintenance of resettlement and J.J. colonies and the amount provided for the current financial year;

(b) whether this amount is much more than the amount spent by NDMC on the maintenance of the resettlement and J.J. colonies;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to enquire into this matter; and

(e) the rate at which the D.D.A. is incurring expenditure on the maintenance of newly constructed colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The year-wise expenditure incurred by DDA during the last 5 years on maintenance of Resettlement Colonies is as follows:

1982-83	—	Rs. 14.78 Crores
1983-84	—	Rs. 18.08 "
1984-85	—	Rs. 23.77 "
1985-86	—	Rs. 25.69 "
1986-87	—	Rs. 19.58 " (Provisional)
Provision for 1987-88:	—	Rs. 13.80crores

(b) to (d). Question does not arise since there are no resettlement/ JJ colonies within the jurisdiction on NDMC.

(c) DDA has not constructed/developed any new JJ colony in the recent years. Hence, the question of the rate of maintenance of newly constructed colonies does not arise.

[*English*]

Capacity utilisation by DMS

3119. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity utilisation of Delhi Milk Scheme plant during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) the steps taken to modernise/renovate the plant and equipment and the result achieved; and

(c) whether Union Government propose to ensure that the benefits of better capacity utilisation and modernisation etc. are passed on to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The capacity utilisation of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) Plant for processing of milk for distribution was as follows:

Year	Capacity utilisation %
1984-85	81.20
1985-86	75.42
1986-87	87.95
1987-88 (upto July, 87)	93.73

(b) The following major steps have been taken to modernise the DMS plant and equipment:

(i) Three pouch-filling machines for packing milk in 1 and ½ litre polypacks have been installed which has resulted in increasing the milk packing capacity by 40,000 litres per day.

(ii) One pouch-filling machine has been installed for packing milk in 5 litre polypacks which has replaced bulk-supply of milk in cans.

(iii) One elecster machine has been installed to process and pack sterilised milk in polypacks to facilitate marketing of flavoured milk in polypacks.

(iv) Two polypack machines have been installed for packing ghee in polypacks.

(c) Delhi Milk Scheme is a public utility organisation and all measures to improve

the capacity utilisation and modernise the plant benefit the consumers.

Films produced during 1985-86

3120. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of feature films, language-wise produced in India during 1985-86; and

(b) the total number of documentary films produced by the Films Division during 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The production of feature films in the country is almost wholly in the private sector. As such Government have no statistical information about the total number of feature films produced. However, the number of Indian feature films certified for public exhibition by Central Board of Film Certification during 1985 and 1986 is 912 and 840 respectively. The linguistic breakup is as in the Statement below.

(b) The total number of documentary films including featurettes produced by Films Division during 1985 and 1986 is 101 and 88 respectively. This does not include 21 (1985) and 27 (1986) News Magazines produced by them during these two years.

STATEMENT

Language	Period	
	1985	1986
1	2	3
Hindi	187	159
Gujarati	22	13
Bhojpuri	6	19
Marathi	16	17
Punjabi	8	7
Haryanvi	10	7
Nepali	4	—
English	1	—
Oriya	17	17
Assamese	10	11
Bengali	28	47
Tamil	190	154
Telugu	198	192
Kannada	69	59

1	2	3
Urdu	2	1
Malayalam	137	130
Rajasthani	3	—
Garhwali	—	1
Sindhi	—	1
Maithili	1	—
Nimadi	1	—
Dimasa	1	—
Konkani	1	—
Avadhi	—	1
Bodo	—	2
Karbi	—	1
Manipuri	—	1
Total:	912	840

Fishermen's Cooperative Societies

3121. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fishermen's cooperative societies in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that plight of these cooperative societies is miserable; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to save poor fishermen from the clutches of money-lenders, middlemen, and wholesellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

(as on 30.6.1985)

Sl. No.	States/U.Ts.	No. of Fisher-men's Cooperative Societies
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh ...	2418
2.	Assam ...	421
3.	Bihar ...	387
4.	Gujarat ...	216
5.	Haryana ..	23
6.	Himachal Pradesh . .	19
7.	Jammu & Kashmir ...	4
8.	Karnataka ...	229
9.	Kerala ...	9
10.	Madhya Pradesh ..	565
11.	Maharashtra ...	1106
12.	Manipur ...	37
13.	Meghalaya ...	44
14.	Nagaland ...	10
15.	Orissa ...	305
16.	Punjab ...	4
17.	Rajasthan ...	71
18.	Sikkim ...	NA
19.	Tamil Nadu ...	511
20.	Tripura ...	120
21	Uttar Pradesh	112
22	West Bengal	846

1	2		3
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	...	27
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	...	3
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	...	—
26.	Chandigarh	...	1
27.	Delhi	...	2
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	...	18
29.	Lakshadweep	...	2
30.	Mizoram	...	18
31.	Pondicherry	...	32
	All India	...	7560

NA: Not Available.

Regulated Agricultural markets

3122. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regulated agricultural markets in the country at present;

(b) the places which have not been adequately provided by regulated markets;

(c) the action Government propose to take to make up this deficiency; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (d). According to provisional information from States and Union Territories, there were 5844 regulated agricultural markets in the country as on 31.3.1987. Since Agricultural Markets is a State subject, the States and Union Territories have been advised to prepare master plans for setting up regulated agricultural markets. Similarly, the States and the Union Territories, which have not yet passed appropriate Acts, have been requested to do so, to provide for requisite legal framework for regulation of agricultural produce markets.

Full-fledged TV centre Asansol

3123. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make Asansol TV relay centre as a full-fledged TV centre; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Morning Transmission from Calcutta Doordarshan

3124. SHRI MATI LAL HANSDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to telecast regional language programmes from Calcutta Doordarshan Kendra for half-an-hour from 7 a.m. onwards;

(b) if so, the date from which this programme is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The morning transmission telecast on the National network from Delhi is relayed by Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta. As such, starting the programme in regional language from Calcutta is not considered necessary.

Free supply of wheat under Unemployed Scheme

3125. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra is not able to make use of the free supply of wheat for schemes for unemployed which are already in operation for quite some time due to conflicting pricing elements that the Central and State Schemes present;

(b) whether the State Government has already submitted their proposals to the Centre for a solution of the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) since when the State Government is not using the free supply of wheat for rural work and the quantum of wheat not lifted so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Government of Maharashtra did not accept the offer of free foodgrains under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)/Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) as according to them wheat was not acceptable to the workers in the State.

(b) and (c). In February, 1986, Government of Maharashtra suggested that foodgrains to workers under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)/Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) as also under Employment Guarantee Scheme (EGS) of the State Government should be supplied at the rate of 1 kg. per manday. The Employment Guarantee Scheme being a State scheme and the entire expenditure on this being borne by the State Government, the suggestion made by the Government of Maharashtra for free supply of foodgrains for this scheme was not accepted.

(d) Government of Maharashtra have not been utilising free foodgrains under NREP/RLEGP ever since the scheme was introduced in 1985-86.

Royalty on Tetrapak paper

3126. SHRI SRI HARI RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tetrapak introduced by Indian Dairy Corporation, Itola (Gujarat) has become popular packing for milk, various health fruits and soft drinks throughout the country;

(b) the royalty of paper for different sizes of tetrapak paid/payable in foreign exchange during last three years;

(c) the present installed capacity of tetrapak units, and the percentage output in terms of number of packages; and

(d) the sale price of different sizes of

tetrapak paper sold by IDCs subsidiary at Itola, Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accumulated Royalty payable upto 23.1.87 was Rs. 12.38 lakhs in Foreign Exchange. However no royalty has been paid so far.

(c) The present installed capacity is 700 million packs per year. The output during the quarter April-June, 87 was 37% of the capacity.

(d) The latest paper prices are as follows:

(i) ½ litre milk—15 days life (Tetra Hedron)
—35 paise per Pack.

(ii) ½ litre milk— 3 months life 56.8 paise (Tetra Hedron) per pack.

(iii) 1 litre milk—3 months life-137 paise per pack.

(iv) 200 ML milk—51 paise per pack.

(v) NON DAIRY USE (FRUIT JUICE)
200 ML pack —55.5 paise per pack.

Upgradation of Hyderabad Airport

3127. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the Hyderabad Airport as International Airport to the level of Bombay, Madras and Calcutta airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing four international airports, namely, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay are considered adequate for catering to the needs of international traffic to and from India.

Distribution of edible oil

3128. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether European Economic Community supplied edible oil to Indian Dairy Corporation as part of the original Operation Flood project; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the oil was sold through Public Distribution System to consumers at fair prices and if so, details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the profit and loss in this transaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Indian Dairy Corporation (IDC) received the following quantities of vegetable oil as gift in lieu of butter oil from European Economic Community (EEC).

1984-85	497 MT
1985-86	1000 MT

(b) and (c). The vegetable oil received by IDC from the EEC as gift was distributed through National Dairy Development Board Oil Project to the oil federations at

the rate of Rs. 10,500 per MT plus taxes ex IDC Warehouses.

[*Translation*]

Committing suicide by consuming celphos insecticide

3129. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of persons committing suicide by consuming celphos insecticide has increased as it is generally sold and is easily available to each person and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the State-wise number of the persons who died as a result of consuming celphos during 1985-86 and upto April, 1987; and

(c) whether manufacturing of this insecticide and its stock is proposed to be banned keeping this fact in view that the benefits of this insecticide are much less than its dangers to the lives of human beings, birds and animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No information regarding the increase in suicide cases through the consumption of Celphos has come to the notice of the Government. Celphos is one of the trade names of an insecticide known as Aluminum Phosphide.

The Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act was already imposed restrictions on the sale and use of Aluminium phosphide. The Aluminium phosphide can only be sold to the Government/Govt. Undertakings/Organisations like Warehousing Corporations, Food Corporation of India etc. and the said insecticide is to be used strictly under the supervision of the Government Experts or by Pest Control operators whose expertise has been approved by the Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India.

(b) Except one death in Haryana due to accidental injection of Aluminium phosphide, no other case has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) The Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act has already taken action by restricting the sale and use of Aluminium phosphide keeping in view the risk benefit ratio, as mentioned in reply to part (a) of the Question.

[*English*]

Development of Chandigarh

3130. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the French architect and artist Le Corbusier who designed Chandigarh has greatly influenced and contributed towards modern sectoral development and planning; and

(b) whether he has been suitably honoured and recognised through memorial in his honour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes

(b) The facts are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Demolition of houses in Khudda Village

3131. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some houses in Khuda village in Okhla Industrial Development Area (NOIDA) were demolished on July 26, 1987; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The matter relates to the State Govt. of U.P.

They are being requested to furnish the relevant information.

Coconut as oilseed

3132. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any request from Government of Kerala to declare the coconut as an oilseed; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Production of Oilseeds

3133. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Union Government to ensure that requisite quality of seeds of oilseeds are made available to States in time;

(b) whether it is a fact that production of oilseeds in kharif crop of 1987 is likely to come down because of the non-availability of seeds in many States; and

(c) if so, the action contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Government of India have enacted a legislation viz., the Seeds Act, 1966 to regulate the quality of seeds including seeds of oilseeds. As per the provisions of the Act, standards have been laid down to ensure the quality of seeds and it is the responsibility of the State Governments to enforce the provisions of Quality Control and ensure timely availability of seeds.

(b) No major shortages have been reported of the seeds of oilseeds crops during Kharif '87 except minor shortage in few crops. Shortage, if any, in production of oilseeds crops in Kharif 1987 would not be on account of non-availability of seeds.

(c) Question does not arise.

Housing Shortage in the Country

3134. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the shortage of housing as estimated by the National Building Organisation at the beginning of Seventh Plan:

(b) the estimated additional requirement of housing for population growth during the Seventh Plan;

(c) Seventh Plan target for construction of houses;

(d) whether housing requirements has increased further by about 15 per cent between 1981 and 1985; and

(e) whether Government are planning any crash programme for meeting the current needs and also for reducing previous gaps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) According to the National Buildings Organisation estimates the housing shortage at the beginning of the 7th Plan was 24.7 million dwelling units.

(b) 16.2 million dwelling units.

(c) Housing is a State subject and the State Governments/Union Territory

Administrations have been given full powers to implement various housing schemes according to their local requirements and plan priorities. However, the 7th Plan provides an outlay of Rs. 2458.21 crores in the public sector for housing and an investment of Rs. 29,000 crores is expected by the private sector during this plan period.

(d) As per the estimates made by National Buildings Organisation the housing requirement has increased further by 10% between 1981 and 1985.

(e) Several steps have been taken to give a boost to housing activities, some of which are as follows:—

(i) The Public Sector outlay for housing has been raised from.Rs. 1490.87 crores in the 6th Plan to Rs. 2458.21 crores in the 7th Plan.

(ii) The norms of income eligibility, ceiling cost of construction and ceiling of Government loan assistance for various social housing schemes have been enhanced.

(iii) Under the Rural House Sites-cum-Construction Assistance Scheme for Rural landless Workers a provision of Rs. 577 crores has been made in the 7th Plan. Of this Rs. 36 crores would be utilised to provide developed house sites to 7.2 lakh landless families at the rate of Rs. 500 per family and an expenditure of Rs. 541 crores would be incurred to porvide ccnstruction assistance to 27.1 lakh families at the rate of Rs. 2000 per family.

(iv) The equity of Housing & Urban Development Corporation is proposed to be raised from Rs. 75 crores to Rs. 135 crores during the 7th Plan.

(v) Sites and Services for Economically Weaker Sections in urban areas are provided at cost price. The area of developed land is restricted to 25-30 sq-mts. per house and loan of Rs. 5000 at concessional rates of interest is to be given to each beneficiary family.

(vi) A National Housing Bank is being set up to facilitate the availability of Housing Finance; and

(vii) Several fiscal incentives are provided to encourage investment in Housing and some more have been announced in the Budget Speech (1987-88).

Construction of Market in Pritampura

3135. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDA has left some space in R(U) Pocket in Uttari Pritampura, Delhi for constructing a market for providing market facilities;

(b) if so, the time by which shops will be constructed and allotted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the Convenient Shopping Centre is likely to be constructed and allotted in 1988-89

(c) Question does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) above

Merger of Song and Drama Division with Directorate of Field Publicity

3136. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for merger of Song and Drama Division with Directorate of Field Publicity has been abandoned or is still under consideration of the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons for keeping this proposal alive in spite of opposition from the Staff Artists and officers of the Song & Drama Division;

(c) number of posts in Song & Drama Division including Staff Artistes lying vacant as on 31st March, 1987; and

(d) the number of posts out of them which had lapsed, and the reasons for not filling up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) It has now been decided by the Government that these two organisations will not be merged.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 92 posts including those of Staff Artistes were lying vacant as on 31.3.1987.

(d) None of these posts has lapsed. However, it has been decided not to fill up 63 vacant posts of Staff Artistes. This is with a view to revamping publicity through this medium by engaging private troupe/artiste in the long-term. The existing staff will, however, continue.

Airbus Service to Leh

3137. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of increasing the frequency of air services to Leh, the pressure of traffic on the said route remained unchanged;

(b) whether airbuses of the Indian Airlines can land and take off at Leh airport conveniently;

(c) if so, whether the Government will consider to operate special Airbuses flights to Leh as and when the pressure of traffic increases to relieve the pressure of regular Boeing 737 flights; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) The aircraft capacity presently provided to and from Leh is adequate to meet the existing traffic demand.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Since the capacity presently provided to and from Leh is commensurate with the existing demand and since the Leh airfield is not capable of accepting Airbus aircraft, the question of operating Airbus flights to this station does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Technology Mission in Barmer, Rajasthan

3138. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made by technological mission in Barmer district of Rajasthan;

(b) the amount given so far to Barmer district after the setting up of Central Government technological mission under Central crash Rural Water Supply Scheme and the minimum needs programme and the yearwise details thereof;

(c) whether the pace of work under the Drinking Water Supply Programme after the formation of the mission been sold slow;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) whether Union Government and the State Government will do justice to most problem district by bringing about changes in this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Under Technology Mission, Schemes involving drilling and development of 15 tubewells, construction of 10 large open

wells, installation and commissioning of 13 Electro-dialysis (ED) Plants, construction of 10 community tanks and preparation of detailed engineering report, have been approved at an estimated cost of about Rs. 182.82 lakhs. Besides, the State Government has been advised to complete 302 ongoing Rural Water Supply Schemes on priority basis at an estimated cost of about Rs. 849.32 lakhs under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) in Barmer district.

A mobile Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plant and 104 water quality testing kits have been approved for the State of Rajasthan. These will be utilised in Mini Mission Project district of Barmer also.

The State Government has reported that hydrogeological maps using land-sat imageries have been prepared and geophysical works for creation of source is in progress. 3 deep wells and 3 open wells have been constructed and fabrication of 3 ED Plants is in progress.

(b) The actual amounts utilised under various programmes in Barmer district in 1986-87 and the allocation for 1987-88 are shown in the following table:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Praogramme	Expenditure in 1986-87	Allocation for 1987-88
1.	ARWSP	192.05	203.00 (78.0 already allotted)
2.	Minimum Needs Programme (MNP)	27 52	83 90
3.	Desert Development Programme (DDP) for drinking Water Supply for cattle	104.24	214 (already allotted)
4.	Advance Plan Assistance (APA)	74 53	45.0 (already allotted)
	Total	398.34	546 26

In addition a sum of Rs. 206.00 lakhs was released in 1986-87 under Technolgoy Mission

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Development of Industrial Colonies Under the Master Plan

3139. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Master Plan in Delhi some industrial colonies were to be developed during the last 25 years;

(b) the particulars of the areas in Delhi where industrial colonies have been developed;

(c) whether it is a fact that certain industrial units in Delhi have not been granted Municipal licences as the Government have not fixed any such areas for Industrial colonies; and

(d) the time by which industrial colonies under the Master Plan are likely to be developed and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The list of areas where industrial colonies have been developed in Delhi is given below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A few areas earmarked for industrial development could not be developed for the purpose due to encroachment/unauthorised construction change of land use.

STATEMENT

List of Areas where Industrial Colonies have been Developed

1. Naraina Industrial Area, Phase-I;
2. Naraina Warehousing Area, Phase-II;
3. Mayapuri Industrial Area, Phase-I;
4. Mayapuri Industrial Area; Phase-II;
5. Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I;
6. Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-II;
7. Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-III;
8. Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-IV;
9. Kriti Nagar Timber Trading Warehousing Scheme;
10. G. T. Karnal Industrial Area;
11. Wazirpur Industrial Area;
12. Jhilmil Industrial Area;
13. Lawrence Road Industrial Area;
14. Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate;
15. S.M.A Industrial Estate;
16. Rajasthan Industrial Estate;
17. Shahdara Manufacturing Industrial Estate;
18. Industrial Cooperative Society on Rohtak Road;
19. Mangolpuri Phase-I Industrial Area;
20. Mangolpuri Phase-II Industrial Area;
21. Patparganj Industrial Estate;
22. Flatted Factories Complex, Rani Jhansi Road;
23. Badli Industrial Estate (Phase I & II).
24. Narela Industrial Complex;
25. Weavers' Colony at Bharat Nagar;
26. Weavers' Colony at Nand Nagri (Old Scheme);
27. Bunkar Vihar (New scheme) at Nand Nagri.

Payment of C.C.A. to Employees of E.P.F. Organisation

3140. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government rules about pay and allowances are also applicable in the E.P.F. Organisation;

(b) if so, whether the increased CCA, has not been paid to the employees working in EPF Regional Office, Bihar from March, 1981 to February, 1983; and

(c) if so, the reasons for inordinate delay and the steps that Government propose to take for the payment of the arrears of the employees of Bihar Regional Office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Informal sale of properties in Vasant Vihar/Shanti Niketan

3141. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether benami transfer or informal sale of properties in Vasant Vihar and Shanti Niketan colonies in Delhi have come to the notice of the DDA;

(b) if so, the names of the owners and the transferees and the particulars of the properties;

(c) the cases in which such sale have been regularised by the DDA; and

(d) the cases in which legal action has been initiated against the owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). 62 cases of benami sales in Vasant Vihar and Shanti Niketan colonies have been reported to the DDA. A list of the sub-lessees is given in the Statement below. Notices have been issued by the DDA to the sub-lessees in almost all cases. Replies received from the sub-lessees are under scrutiny. The names of the purchasers are being ascertained in cases where these have not been reported. The question of initiating legal action against the others does not arise at present. None of these transactions has yet been regularised.

STATEMENT

List of plots reported to have been sold under Benami transactions

Shantiniketan

1.	S-1/10	Smt Subri Devi
2.	S-2/38	Sh T.C. Ajmani
3	S-4/13	Smt. Roshan A. Sujan
4.	S-4/26	Sh. R.C. Bhandri
5.	S-6/3	Sh. S.P. Singhal
6.	S-4/11	Sh. Som Datt

Vasant Vihar

7.	4 PLMM	Sh. S.C. Malhotra
8.	24 PLMM	Sh. S.B. Shetty
9.	30 PSCHM	Sh. Satish Grover
10.	46 PSCHM	Sh. S.R. Bhashyam
11.	48-PSCHM	Smt. Sheila N. Malkani
12.	15 PRVM	Sh. Kulbir Singh
13.	42 PRVM	Sh. H.E.J. Pant
14.	50 PRVM	Sh. J.L. Chopra
15.	63 PRVM	Sh. J.N. Gupta
16.	76 PRVM	Sh. Hargopal Singh
17.	77 PRVM	Sh. Chander Mukhi
18.	81 PRVM	Sh. J.N. Endlaw
19.	82 PRVM	Sh. G.R. Kakar
20.	85 PRVM	Sh. B.P. Patel
21.	14 VSNM	Sh. H.C. Malhotra
22.	18 VSNM	Smt. Kshetra Kumari
23.	40 VSNM	Smt. Savitri Bhasin
24.	52 VSNM	Sh. R.G. Mundkur
25.	A-1/5	Flt. Sgt. A.D. Sabharwal
26.	A-2/6	Sh. I.D. Bajaj
27.	A-8/6	Sh. K.L. Kohli
28.	A-8/19	Sh. K.P. Singhal
29.	A-11/9	Sh. M.R. Goel
30.	A-14/4	Sh. G.S. Uppal
31.	B-1/16	Sh. K.S. Suri
32.	B-2/16	Sh. B.N. Aindley
33.	B-2/18	Sh. J.S. Khurana
34.	B-3/9	Sh. R.N. Aindley

35.	B-4/15	Sh. D.D.R. Notani
36.	B-5/4	Smt. Durga Mohini
37.	B-6/9	Sh. B.B. Lal
38.	B-6/13	Sh. C.L. Sharma
39.	B-8/8	Smt. Shakuntala Lal
40.	B-8/19	Major I. Mohan Singh
41.	C-1/12	Sh. H.C. Kumar
42.	C-2/5	Sh. S.L. Kochar
43.	C-3/1	Miss Ivya Raymond
44.	C-4/2	Sh. B.M. Lal
45.	C-9/6	Late Sh. D.B. Kashyap
46.	C-9/7	Sh. S. Dave
47.	D-1/6	Brig. A.D. Verma
48.	D-1/35	Sh. S.B. Saran
49.	D-1/56	Gp. Capt. J.M. Poonen
50.	D-3/5	Sh. H.N. Endlew
51.	D-6/21	Sh. K.B. Mathur
52.	D-6/22	Lt. Col. H.L. Sethi
53.	D-6/30	Sh. G. Nair
54.	E-1/12	Sh. R.K. Wahie
55.	E-4/1	Miss Raj Usha Chopra
56.	E-8/15	Sh. J.L. Nanda
57.	E-11/5	Sh. J.N. Singh
58.	E-9/4	Sh. Jawala Singh
59.	E-12/4	Sh. Shri Manohar
60.	F-3/5	Sh. P.S. Jain
61.	F-4/5	Dr. J.N. Chatterjee
62.	87 Paschimi Marg	Sh. P.K. Samel.

Cow hitting incident at Bhubaneshwar Airport

3142. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Airlines plane hit cow while landing at Bhubaneshwar on 14 July, 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the loss suffered; and

(d) the action taken against the persons responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft VT-EKC hit some cows during landing roll at Bhubaneshwar airport on 13th July, 1987. There was minor damage to the aircraft and no one was injured. .

(c) Right hand engine, Right hand landing gear and nose landing gear were partly damaged.

(d) Action is being taken against the responsible persons.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of plots in Khichripur

3143. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residents of houses on plots 3/26, 3/34, 3/104, 3/105, 3/485 and 4/106 in Khichripur colony were allotted these plots in lieu of the houses demolished during 1975-76;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the said house owners got allotment of M.I.G. flats in Dilshad Garden Part-II on the same ground, though they were not eligible for it; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposed to conduct an inquiry into it and if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*English*]

Technology for low cost housing

3144. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient research and development work was done on low cost housing;

(b) whether this low cost housing Schemes takes into consideration pre-fabricated technology for construction of low cost housing;

(c) how does this system deal with land acquisition; and

(d) whether setting up building material centres will help in this construction of houses of low cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). A number of new and improved technologies for reducing cost of construction effecting saving in scarce building materials like cement, steel and timber and involving speedier construction processes have been developed. Some of these involve use of pre-fabricated building components.

(c) As the supply of land is inelastic, use of land for housing has to be made, in the optimum intensive manner feasible.

(d) Building material account for major

part of the total construction costs. Setting up of building material centres will facilitate access to good quality building materials at competitive prices and improve the quality of construction.

Felling of trees

3145. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Nav Bharat Times dated Ist July, 1987 under the caption "Paidon Ki Jagah Karkhanan Khada ho gaya";

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Complaints about the working of Air India Office, Kuwait

3146. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about the working of Air India Office, Kuwait;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been complaints for the last six months of accommodating free passengers by ignoring passengers with confirmed tickets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A complaint was received from the General Secretary and Acting Chairman of United Malayalee Organisations in Kuwait, which contained complaint against the G.S.A. of Air India and some officers of Air India in Kuwait. When contacted, the Chairman of the United Malayalee Organisations in Kuwait was apologetic that this complaint was made without his knowledge and stated that the complaint had no basis.

(c) and (d). There was a solitary complaint in which it had been reported that a family with confirmed bookings for travel on Air India's flight to Trivandrum could not be accommodated. Investigations revealed that this happened because of overbooking and delayed reporting of the passengers at the airport.

Regarding rise in prices of onion

3147. SHRI LALITESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI
DR. G.S. RAJHANS:
SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of onions in the market have recently gone up steeply;

(b) whether the officials of the NAFED have blamed the merchants who have deliberately hoarded the onions and thus caused present price rise;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to make available the onions to the consumers at a reasonable price; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) The information is given in the Statement below.

(b) NAFED is of the view that the main reasons for the increase in the prices of onion are seasonality factor and drought conditions.

(c) and (d). The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has been asked to release the stock of onion through cooperative outlets in response to the demands received. For the benefit of consumers in Delhi, NAFED has started supplying onion to Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar, Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation, Mother dairy and Delhi Fruit & Vegetable Growers Cooperative Consumer Federation for retail distribution through their outlets at a reasonable price. In addition, NAFED also sells onion directly to consumers in the Capital.

STATEMENT

Month-end wholesale prices of Onion in selected centres during April-July, 1987

(Rs. per Quintal)

State/Centre	Variety	April	May	June	July
Andhra Pradesh					
Hyderabad	Red	105	150	200	280
Gujarat					
Jamnagar	Red (Desi)	130	115	165	260
Maharashtra					
Bombay	Nasik No. 1	105	205	290	305
Nasik	Pole/Red	95	191	230	275
Tamil Nadu					
Madras	Bellary	160	200	280	350
Uttar Pradesh					
Kanpur	Red	140	148	155	195
West Bengal					
Calcutta	Bombay	175	185	300	338
Union Territory					
Delhi	Nasik	175	140	190	320

Production of poultry feed

3148. SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to allocate molasses, the main ingredient for the production of compound feed and concentrates for feeding milch animals in the country; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government encourage the small units engaged in the production of

poultry feed by providing modern techniques and expertise;

(c) whether Government also propose to allow the big industries to produce certain percentage of the total requirement of poultry feed if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The State Governments have been advised to meet the requirement of molasses for the manufacturing units for cattle/poultry feed etc. The distribution criteria of molasses between Small Scale Units and others is with the State Governments. Molasses is not the main ingredient used for the production of compound feed and concentrates for feeding milch animals.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). At present, the manufacture of poultry feed is reserved for exclusive development in the small scale sector. Hence, the question of allowing the big industries to produce poultry feed does not arise except the organised sector units who were engaged in the manufacture of this product prior to the date of reservation (i.e. December, 1978). The capacity of these units have been pegged to the maximum production attained by any of these units during the three years prior to the date of reservation.

Banerjee Committee on pesticide

3149. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Banerjee Committee has appointed to study and advice on food residues of pesticides and general environmental pollution caused by these hazardous compounds and if so, whether the Committee has completed its tasks;

(b) what are the main recommendations of this Committee and action taken thereon; and

(c) whether all dangerous and hazardous pesticides will be withdrawn or banned in the country and recourse taken to products such as Neem and Integrated Pest Managements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). No such Committee has been set up. However, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.N. Banerjee was set up in August, 1984 to examine the continued use in India of pesticides which have been banned or restricted for use in other countries. This Committee has already submitted its Report on DDT, BHC, Aldrin, Dieldrin, Chlordane, Heptachlor and EDB. The Report of the Committee on BHC has been accepted by Government. Action will be taken on the other reports of the Committee after their examination and final decision on them.

(c) Dangerous pesticides are not registered in India by the Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 due to reasons of safety to humanbeings and animals. Besides, as and when any information about the dangerous and hazardous effects of any pesticide registered in the country comes to the notice of the Registration Committee, corrective measures like phasing out, restricting or banning of such pesticides in the country are promptly taken.

Insecticides based upon neem are yet to become commercially available. However, the Government has initiated appropriate action to encourage the concept of integrated pest management for the benefit of farmers.

UNICEF Scheme for drinking water in rural areas of U.P.

3150. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme with the aid of UNICEF has been formulated to ensure supply of sufficient drinking water in rural areas in U.P.;

(b) if so, the number of villages that will be benefited with this scheme;

(c) whether there is also a proposal to start this scheme in other parts of the country where there is drought; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (d) UNICEF provides assistance in terms of equipment, expertise and software in the following areas as per the 'Central Government-UNICEF Plan of Operations, 1985-89':

(1) Drilling

(2) Handpump installation

(3) Gravity feed water supply schemes

(4) Training

(5) Health Education.

There is no separate UNICEF scheme for rural areas of U.P. or any other State. However, 9 drilling rigs have been supplied to U.P. through UNICEF assistance. In addition, gravity feed schemes in the hill districts of U.P. are to be implemented which are expected to benefit 45 villages. UNICEF assistance in the form of supplying drilling rigs, hand pump installation, organisation of training for maintenance, etc. has been arranged for providing inputs to the rural water supply programmes in different States of the country.

Construction of village approach roads in Dadra and Nagar Haveli

3151. SHRI SITARAM J. GAWALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of village approach roads, where the construction work is held up for want of forest clearance in Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli;

(b) whether the Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli propose to provide alternative arrangements for approaches to all such villages till the construction of approach roads is completed; and

(c) if not, the time likely to be taken to complete the construction of all such pending approach roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Five.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It is not possible to assess the time likely to be taken to complete the construction of all such pending approach roads.

Proposals of coconut development board

3152. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have approved the Seventh Five Year Plan proposals of the Coconut Development Board;

(b) if so, the total outlay for plan and non-plan programmes;

(c) whether any new products of coconut have been approved; and

(d) by what time these programmes are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Seventh Plan projects of the Coconut Development Board financed out of plan funds have been approved. Due to abolition of Cess on Copra, the projects earlier financed out of cess collections are being continued on year to year basis.

(b) The total plan and non-plan outlay is likely to be of the order of Rs. 950.00 lakhs.

(c) The Coconut Development Board is providing financial assistance to artisans for purchasing essential machinery to produce various items utilising different parts of the coconut tree.

(d) Implementation of all sanctioned projects has already started.

Air Service to Kanyakumari

3153. SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a plan to bring Kanyakumari on the aviation map;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to start helicopter service to Kanyakumari for the time being?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c): Kanyakumari is adequately connected by rail and road transport. The air passengers to and from Kanyakumari are served by Trivandrum airport which is in close proximity thereto.

(d) At present, there is no such proposal

Financial assistance under IRDP

3154. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the limit of financial assistance being given to the States under the Integrated Rural Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) The allocation of funds for Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is made annually on the basis of annual plans and the budget provided for the programme. The State's share is determined according to a formula which is 2/3rds on incidence of poverty and 1/3rd on the number of blocks for the year 1987-88. There is as such no limit of financial assistance which may be given to State.

(b) Question does not arise.

Central Assistance for shifting cultivation

3155. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for preventing the practice of shifting cultivation amongst tribals in different States;

(b) the Central assistance provided to State Governments to implement programmes; and

(c) the various programmes implemented in States including Orissa State to

prevent shifting cultivation in tribal areas during the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). The information is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Information relating to Central assistance for shifting cultivation

General: Shifting cultivation is widely practised by the tribals of the hilly regions of North Eastern States, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. It is also prevalent in a few other States of this country.

2. Seriousness of this problem has been engaging the attention of the Government. Several commissions and expert groups have studied the problem in detail. Of these the latest is the Report of Task Force on Shifting Cultivation in India (October, 1983) which deals with the problem in all its aspects and recommendations for taking up of a beneficiary oriented integrated development programme with Central assistance during Seventh Plan.

Details of various schemes for control of shifting cultivation with Central assistance are given below:—

Pilot Project for Control of Shifting Cultivation

(*in lakhs*)

Name of State	No of Families given assistance	Amount Released	Remarks
1. Andhra Pradesh	100	3.517	During 5th Plan
2. Assam	200	12.695	"
3. Meghalaya	100	8.267	"
4. Nagaland	100	5.65	"
5. Orissa	300	20.846	"
6. Tripura	100	3.00	"
7. Arunachal Pradesh	800	75.26	Till 1986-87
8. Mizoram	800	87.525	"

3. The scheme was transferred to the State Sector with effect from 1.4.1979 as per decision of the National Development Council However, in the case of erstwhile Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram it continued under this Central Sector Scheme till 1986-87.

4. Based on the recommendation of the Task Force on Shifting Cultivation (1983) endorsed by the Board on Shifting Cultivation and Committee of Ministers on Economic Development of North Eastern States, a programme with special Central assistance with 100% grant is being launched from 1987-88 in 9 States, including Orissa with an approved outlay of Rs. 15 crores for the year.

NEC Sector

Apart from Central Sector Scheme, North

Eastern Council has reported that during 5th Five Year Plan 5537 families have been given settlement benefits at an expenditure of Rs. 508.82 lakhs in all the seven states of North Eastern region

During the Sixth Five Year Plan 13 watershed management projects aimed at control of shifting cultivation were taken up for investigation, of which seven projects are under implementation

Tribal Welfare

Under Tribal Welfare Programme also funds have been released for this purpose as per details given below.—

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1. Andhra Pradesh	192.00	75.00	100 00
2. Madhya Pradesh	51.26	—	—
3. Orissa	150.00	90.00	—
4. Meghalaya	—	5.00	—
5. Tripura	—	20 00	10.00
	393.26	190.00	110.00

State Sector programme for Seventh Plan

Substantial funds are provided for control of shifting cultivation under State sector The following allocation has been made by the Planning Commission for crop husbandry and soil and water conservation programmes —

Sl. No.	State/ Union Territory	Outlay approved by Planning Commission for the Seventh Plan (Rs. in lakhs)		Remarks
		Crop husbandry programme	Soil and water conservation programme	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	700.00	400.00	Reflects the provision for hill areas where shifting cultivation is practised.
2.	Manipur	1448.00	1060.00	Rs. 448 lakhs earmarked exclusively for shifting cultivation.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Meghalaya	1600.00	1250.00	Rs. 351 lakhs earmarked exclusively for shifting cultivation.
4.	Nagaland	2390.00	1000.00	
5.	Tripura	2205.00	700.00	
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	2000.00	1600.00	
7.	Mizoram	1400.00	900.00	

In all these States the crop husbandry and soil and water conservation programmes will have the main thrust on the control of shifting cultivation and rehabilitation of Jhumias as one of the major objectives.

Central Legislation for Demarcation of Fishing Zones

3156. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to enact comprehensive Central legislation for the demarcation of the respective limits of the fishing operations of the three categories of fishing craft viz. those engaged in fishing by catamarans or country boats, mechanised boats and deep sea trawlers; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Regulation of fishing in the territorial waters is within the competence of State/Union Territory Governments. In order to assist the State/Union Territory Governments, Government of India had circulated a model bill in 1979 to all Maritime States and Union Territories requesting them to make suitable legislation. State Governments of Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Orissa have enacted suitable legislation delimiting operation of traditional craft, mechanised boats and deep sea fishing vessels. Government of Andhra Pradesh have passed executive order. Government of Gujarat, West Bengal and Union Territory of Pondicherry are considering enactment of suitable legislation.

Establishment of Dry Land Research Institute in A.P.

3157. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research propposes to establish a dry land research institute in Nalgonda area of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total cost of the project and time by which it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to establish a dry land research insti-

tute in Nalgonda area of Andhra Pradesh by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Upgradation of Airports

3158. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to upgrade a number of airports in the country with latest communication and navigational equipment;

(b) if so, names of these airports and other details regarding their upgradation including cost involved;

(c) the basis on which these airports have been selected; and

(d) time by which upgradation of each of the aforesaid airports is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Name of the airport and the development proposed	Estimated cost	Basis of selection	Tentative time schedule for completion
1	2	3	4
1. Modernisation of the Air Traffic Control Systems at Delhi and Bombay airports.	Rs. 195.00 Crores	Air Traffic load	Two and a half years from the date of commencement of the project.
2. Installation of Instrument Landing Systems at (i) Jammu, Amritsar, Jaipur, Bhopal, Kanpur, Varanasi, Patna, Mohanbari, Imphal and Agartala airports.	Rs. 9.51 crores	Poor visibility and consequential operational problems at these airports.	By the middle of 1988
(ii) Lucknow and Ahmedabad	Rs. 2.00 Crs.	Density of air traffic	By March, 1988
3. Installation of Air Route Surveillance Radar at Nagpur airport.	Rs. 10.00 crores	Nagpur airport is inter-section point of various Air Traffic Control routes.	By September, 1988
4. Message Switching System (AMSS) at Bombay and Delhi airports.	Rs. 3.20 crores	Selected in accordance with the ICAO guide-lines, having regard to the message traffic to be handled and the message responsibilities of these centres	System is already functional at Bombay airport. It is expected to be functional at Delhi airport by March, 1988.

Drought Prone Areas

3159. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state·

(a) the total percentage of areas in the country classified as drought prone;

(b) the details of these areas (State-wise);

(c) whether Government are making efforts to implement Drought Prone Area Programme in these areas;

(d) the allocation made towards Drought Prone Area Programme to different States and the amount spent so far during the current financial year (State-wise); and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c). Statement I indicating the State-wise details of the areas identified as drought prone and included in drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) is given below. The total area covered by DPAP is about 5.5 lakh sq. kms which roughly works out to 19.3% of the total geographical area of the States in which the programme is being implemented

(d) and (e). Statement II indicating total allocations made under DPAP and the expenditure incurred (as on 30.6.1987) in respect of 1987-88 financial year is given below.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of the areas included in DPAP

Sl. No.	State	No. of Districts	No. of Blocks	Area in 000 Sq. kms.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	69	77.15
2.	Bihar	5	54	22.25
3.	Gujarat	8	43	51.39
4.	Haryana	1	9	3.01
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	13	16.24
6.	Karnataka	11	71	95.70
7.	Madhya Pradesh	6	49	40.78
8.	Maharashtra	12	74	116.48
9.	Orissa	4	39	22.10
10.	Rajasthan	8	30	30.05
11.	Tamil Nadu	7	43	17.78
12.	Uttar Pradesh	16	87	49.23
13.	West Bengal	3	34	11.20
	Total	91	615	553.36

STATEMENT-II

Total allocation and expenditure incurred during 1987-88 under DPAP.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Total allocation	Amount spent upto 30.6.87
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1035.00	361.84
2.	Bihar	810.00	86.57
3.	Gujarat	645.00	98.91
4.	Haryana	135.00	16.33
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	195.00	0.56
6.	Karnataka	1065.00	38.02
7.	Madhya Pradesh	735.00	114.14
8.	Maharashtra	1110.00	119.70
9.	Orissa	585.00	72.96
10.	Rajasthan	450.00	91.47
11.	Tamil Nadu	645.00	30.48
12.	Uttar Pradesh	1305.00	165.35
13.	West Bengal	510.00	47.90
	Total	9225.00	1244.23

Setting up Industrial Tribunals/Labour Courts in Delhi

3160. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations made in the Labour Minister's Conference held in September, 1983 have since been implemented;

(b) whether in view of the recommendations, Government propose to set up more Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts in Delhi in view of the increased workload in Courts and Tribunals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). The position regarding the action taken on the conclusions/ suggestions relating to Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals, etc. of the 34th Session of the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in September, 1983 is as follows:—

(1) A separate cadre of industrial judges for Labour Courts should be constituted.

There are at present 11 Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour

Courts in India. To these 11 posts of Presiding Officers, Retired High Court Judges and Serving/Retired District or Additional District Judges are appointed. The number of Central Government Industrial Tribunals is too small to justify constitution of a separate cadre.

(2) At least twice the number of present Industrial Tribunals/Labour Courts would be required all over the country.

There were about 1800 cases and 5400 applications pending with the CGIT-cum-LCs as on 31.3.1987. The information relating to the cases pending before Labour Courts/ Industrial Tribunals in the States/Union Territories is not maintained. However, according to available information, 213206 cases were pending as on 31 12.1985 in different States/Union Territories barring the States of Nagaland and Himachal Pradesh.

A number of steps have been taken to expedite disposal of cases pending in the CGIT-cum-LCs. These include fixation of time-limit for disposal of cases/applications under sections 10, 33(5) and 33-C(2) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Working Group on Industrial Relations constituted for the formulation of the Seventh Five Year Plan had recommended norms for disposal of cases and establishment of new court. As per these recommendations, norms for disposal for each Tribunal should be 10 contested cases and for each Labour Court 20 contested applications per month and the normal workload of an Industrial Tribunal should be 200 cases and of the Labour Court 800 applications. These recommendations were communicated to all the State Governments/Union Territories with the request that remedial action be taken to reduce the pendency of cases. The State Government/Union Territories set up Industrial Tribunals/Labour Courts under the provision of Industrial Disputes Act for the State sphere on the basis of the requirements in the particular State or Union Territory. They are addressed from time to time to review the position of cases and wherever necessary set up additional Tribunal/Courts. As regards Union Territory of Delhi as against 2 Industrial Tribunals and 3 Labour Courts during the year 1982-83, there are at present 3 Industrial Tribunals and 8 Labour Courts. Delhi Administration has a proposal to set up one more Labour Court. Additional Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts have been set up at Kanpur and Bangalore in 1984 and 1987 respectively

(3) Revival of Labour Appellate Tribunals to curb delay in High Courts. As an alternative, there could be a special bench in High Courts and Supreme Court to deal with labour cases.

It is proposed to set up high-powered Tribunals under Article 323 B of the Constitution. There is no proposal to revive the Labour Appellate Tribunals.

(4) Liberalisation of qualifications of judges of Tribunals, etc.

Several State Governments including Haryana, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Orissa and Bihar have since liberalised the qualifications of judges of Tribunals and Labour Courts through amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act. It is also proposed to relax the qualifications of the Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts as part of the proposed amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

[*Translation*]

Incidents of fire in Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras

3161. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of fire, etc. which took place in Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras during the last one year and the places where such incidents took place;

(b) the causes thereof; and

(c) the arrangements made to check such incidents and explosions in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Six minor cases of fire and smoke in Akashwani Kendras and one case of fire in Doordarshan Kendra were reported. Details are in the Statement given below.

(c) A regular and constant vigil is being maintained. The efficiency of fire fighting equipment is regularly monitored on periodical basis at All India Radio and Doordarshan Kendras. Periodical surprise checks are conducted by the Senior Officers to test the efficiency and implementation of the security instructions issued from time to time. Apart from this, close liaison with local police/concerned authorities are being maintained. The security measures have been tightened and revised guidelines have been issued.

STATEMENT

Details of fire incidents at AIR & Doordarshan Kendras

S. No.	Name of Institution	Type of incident	Cause
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		ALL INDIA RADIO	
1.	Akashvani Bhavan, New Delhi	Smoke	Case of burning of choke of a tubelight.
2.	HPT, AIR, Chinsurah	Fire	The dry grass in the vast aerial field caught fire.
3.	AIR, Rampur	Fire	Fire in the grass in the aerial field compound at Transmitter.
4.	AIR, Allahabad	Fire	Dry wild growth that had been cut in aerial field caught fire
5.	AIR, Jodhpur	Fire	Fire occured in Power Supply Room at Studio due to technical reason.
6.	AIR, Broadcasting House, New Delhi.	Smoke	Case of burning of choke of a tubelight.
		DOORDARSHAN	
1.	LPTV Relay Centre, Darjeeling	Fire	Fire took place in Diesel Generator Room. According to the fire service personnel, the fire spread to the generator room from outside.

[*English*]

Air fare from Trivandrum to Gulf Countries

3162. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the distance and the corresponding air fares in respect of the following Air Routes (1) Dubai-New York (2) Dubai-

Trivandrum (3) Dubai-London (4) Dubai-Paris (5) Dubai-Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware that Air fare from Trivandrum to the Gulf-countries charged by the Air India is high;

(c) whether in 1984 the Government of Kerala had forwarded a resolution passed unanimously in the Kerala Legislature on 23 March, 1984 to reduce the Air Fare in the Gulf sector;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon;

(e) whether the Government have made any specific request to the IATA for reducing the charges in the Gulf sector; and

(f) the reasons for the inordinate delay in taking a final decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The requisite information is as under.—

Routes	Distance (in Miles)	Round Trip fare (in Abu Dhabi Dirham ADH)
Dubai-New York	6841	5928
Dubai-Trivandrum	1834	2927
Dubai-London	3404	4604
Dubai-Paris	3259	4419
Dubai-Delhi	1360	1840

(b) Air fares applicable on Trivandrum Gulf sector are the same for all airlines including Air India, having been fixed multilaterally by all airlines at the International Air Transport Association (IATA) forum.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The position was explained to the then Chief Minister of Kerala by the then Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation in the Government of India.

(e) and (f). Air India had taken the question of reducing air-fare on the Gulf-sector in the IATA forum. The proposal was, however, not acceptable to the member airlines.

Checking of unauthorised constructions in Multi-storeyed buildings by DDA

3163. SHRI D.N. REDDY:
SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the frequent fire accidents in multi-storeyed buildings in Delhi;

(b) the steps Delhi Development Authority propose to take to check the menace of unauthorised construction and using extra-floor areas in the multi-storeyed buildings in Delhi, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). DDA is taking stringent measures to check the menace of unauthorised construction/extra-floor areas in the multi-storeyed buildings in Delhi by way of passing demolition orders/sealing orders under sections 30,31,31A and 45 of the Delhi Development Act and with follow up actions of such orders.

Settlement of dispute between IA and Federation of various Unions

3164. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in settlement between Indian Airlines and the Federation of various Unions; and

(b) the terms on which there is unanimity between the two and the points on which they differ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Meaningful negotiations with the Unions/Associations could be held by Indian Airlines only after the guidelines with regard to financial parameters were available. Govt. issued the guidelines in January, 1987.

(b) The wage negotiations with the Unions/Associations are in progress and any indication about unanimity of views or difference of opinion would not be available until the Memoranda of Understanding are signed with the Unions/Associations.

[*Translation*]

Complaint against Sulabh International Institute

3165. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints of fraud have been received against Sulabh International Institute;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the enquiry made into these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c). Financial assistance to voluntary organisations from the Department of Rural Development is routed through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)-a registered society under the administrative control of the Department of Rural Development. No financial assistance has been given by CAPART to this Institute. No complaint of fraud against Sulabh International Institute has been received either in CAPART or in the Department of Rural Development.

[*English*]

Agreement for buying Russian films

3166. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Film Development Corporation has entered into an agreement with Russian Film Undertaking for buying Russian Films and selling Indian films,

(b) if so, the highlights of the agreement; and

(c) the time by which the Russian films would be screened in India and whether they would also be telecast by Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. There is an agreement between National Film Development Corporation (N.F.D.C.) and Sovexportfilm on import/export of films.

(b) Salient features of the agreement are:

(a) The agreement is valid for a period of three years from 1.3.1987.

(b) The Sovexportfilm will import and distribute in India, 20 motion pictures every year.

(c) The import of films by Sovexportfilm will be canalised through NFDC and the former will pay to the Corporation, canalisation fee @ 15 per cent of the c.i.f. value of prints imported.

(d) The agreement envisages only the exploitation of theatrical (70mm, 35mm and 16mm) and non-commercial (16mm) films of Sovexportfilm.

(e) Sovexportfilm has undertaken to buy through NFDC Indian films/ video rights worth at least Rs. 6 million each year for theatrical and non-theatrical distribution in the territory of USSR.

(c) Since the agreement is for a period of three years for import, ordinarily screening will take place during this period.

Under the agreement, films to be imported by Sovexportfilm are for exploitation of theatrical (70 mm, 25 mm and 16 mm) and non-commercial (16 mm) rights and not for Television rights.

Foreign collaboration in Milk production

3167. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have entered into an agreement with any country for technical assistance and cooperation in milk production dairy-farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the success of Operation Flood Programme is expected to boost our exports of dairy equipments in the engineering industry; and

(d) if so, the action contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). An agreement between Government of India and the Government of Switzerland was concluded in December, 1985 for continuation of Indo-Swiss Project for cattle breeding, fodder production etc. in Kerala in the follow-up phase 1985-88. Another agreement between Govt. of India and Govern-emnt of Switzerland was signed in June, 1987 for continuation of the Indo-swiss project in Andhra Pradesh for cattle breeding, fodder production etc. in the 4th phase.

(c) and (d). The Operation Flood Programme has provided stimulus to the exports of dairy and allied equipments though it was not the explicit objective of Operation Flood.

Decline in groundnut production

3168. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the groundnut crop is likely to be poor this year, if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of groundnut crop is raised in rainfed areas,

(c) the promising groundnut varieties fit for rainfed conditions, evolved by ICAR and other agricultural institutes, during the last three years; and

(d) the salient features of these varieties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Sowings of groundnut

crop during the current crop year are still continuing in some States. As such, it is too early to forecast the likely size of the crop during the year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). A Statement below gives the list of promising groundnut varieties fit for rainfed conditions evolved during the last three years, along with the salient features of these varieties.

STATEMENT

List of promising varieties evolved during the last three years for rainfed conditions

Variety	Recommended for	Salient features
GROUNDNUT		
1. DH 8	Transitional tract of northern Karnataka	Suitable for Kharif and rabi/summer cultivation, tolerant to late leaf spot, possesses fresh seed dormancy of one week.
2. Chitra	Uttar Pradesh	Oil content 49%, testa varigated.
3. Kaushal	All-India	Wide adaptation, early maturity (108-111 days), compact plant type
4. GG-11	Gujarat	Gives 14.3% higher yield than GAUG-10.
5. ICGS-1	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar	Gives 33% higher yield than existing varieties of the region.
6. ICGS-4	IN Kharif areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Southern Maharashtra.	Foliar disease resistance, higher yielding than the local.
7. CGC-8	In Kharif areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Southern Maharashtra.	Foliar disease resistance, higher yielding

In addition, a number of varieties such as VG-18, MA-16, C-364, OG-52-1 have been identified for pre-release multiplication during 1986.

[*Translation*]

Construction work of Maharaja Surajmal Stadium

3169. SHRI BHARAT SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work of Maharaja Surajmal Stadium, Nangloi, Delhi has been lying suspended since last three years, though its boundary wall has already been completed; and

(b) the time by which the rest of the construction work of the stadium is likely to be completed to solve the problem of sports ground for the youth of Mangol Puri, Sultan Puri, Nangloi and the adjoining areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). As a cremation ground exists at the site of the proposed stadium as such the construction of stadium cannot be undertaken till the shifting of the cremation ground.

[*English*]

Housing Scheme under NREP

3170. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group Housing schemes are being implemented under National Rural Employment Programme;

(b) if so, the target for 1987-88;

(c) whether Government are aware that the allocation fixed for each house is very meagre; and

(d) if so, whether Government have got any revised proposals to increase the allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Construction of houses under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) is taken up as part of the works directly benefiting the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and free bonded labourers.

(b) No targets for construction of houses under this programme are fixed.

(c) The ceiling of expenditure permitted for construction of houses under Indira Awas Yojna is applicable to houses to be constructed under NREP also. The prescribed ceiling is considered to be adequate.

(d) The question does not arise.

Indian Airlines International Service

3171. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) in which foreign countries Indian airlines are operating their services;

(b) details of these services; and

(c) the names of the countries where new services are proposed to be operated by Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) At present, Indian Airlines operate to Thailand, Nepal, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Pakistan and Singapore.

(b) Details are given in the statement below.

(c) Indian Airlines have proposed to the Government to operate to some middle-east and South East Asian countries.

STATEMENT

Details of Indian Airlines Services to Foregin Countries

Name of country	Flight No.	Type of aircraft	Route	Frequency
1	2	3	4	5
Thailand	IC—231/232	B-737	Calcutta-Bangkok-Calcutta	Thrice weekly
Afghanistan	IC—451/452	B-737	Delhi-Kabul-Delhi	Twice Weekly
	IC—455/456	IL-76	Delhi-Kabul-Delhi (Freighter Service)	Once weekly

1	2	3	4	5
Bangladesh	IC—223/224	B-737	Calcutta-Dhaka-Calcutta	Daily
	IC—225/226	Fokker Friendship-27	Calcutta-Chittagong-Calcutta	Thrice weekly
Nepal	IC—245/246	B-737	Patna-Kathamandu-Patna	Twice weekly
	IC—247/248	B-737	Calcutta-Kathmandu-Calcutta	Five times a week.
	IC—252/251	B-737	Varanasi-Kathmandu-Varanasi	Daily
	IC—413/414	B-737	Delhi-Kathmandu-Delhi	Daily
Pakistan	IC—131-132	AB-3	Bombay-Karachi-Bombay	Thrice weekly
	IC—431/432	B-737	Delhi-Lahore-Delhi	Twice weekly
	IC—441/442	B-737	Delhi-Karachi-Delhi	Twice weekly
Sri Lanka	IC—507/508	B-737	Trivandrum-Colombo-Trivandrum	Twice weekly
	IC—573/574	B-737	Madars-Colombo-Madras	Daily
	IC—577-578	B-737	Tiruchirapalli-Colombo-Tiruchirapalli	Thrice weekly
	IC—586-585	B-737	Bombay-Colombo-Bombay	Twice weekly
Maldives	IC—563/564	B-737	Trivandrum-Male-Trivandrum	Thrice weekly
Singapore	IC—555/556	AB-3	Madars-Singapore-Madars	Once weekly

Taking Over of Regional Co-operative Marketing Societies of Orissa by NCDC

3172. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Co-operative Development Corporation has taken over the regional co-operative marketing societies of Orissa;

(b) if so, when and the reasons thereof; and

(c) the Central assistance given to these regional co-operative marketing societies during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A total assistance of Rs. 35.04 lakhs was sanctioned to nineteen regional cooperative marketing societies in Orissa through the National Co-operative Development Corporation during the period 1984-85 to 1986-87 as under:

Purpose for which Assistance provided	No. of Societies Assisted	Amount of Assistance Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
Share Capital Contribution	12	18.75
Purchase of Transport Vehicles	2	2.75

1	2	3
Setting up of Jute Baling Plants	1	5.05
Oilseeds Processing	1	1.00
Construction of Godowns	3	7.49

[*Translation*]

Cheating of Job Seekers

3173. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state .

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to check frauds committed in the country in the name of providing jobs in the Gulf countries; and

(b) whether Government propose to formulate any scheme to provide guidance through employment exchanges to the workers, artisans and experts going abroad with a view to save Indians from being exploited in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) As per provisions of Emigration Act, 1983 only Registered Recruiting Agents can recruit workers for overseas employment. Penal action is taken for violation of the terms and conditions of registration and for indulging in cheating of workers.

(b) No, Sir. However, publicity campaign has been launched to educate the emigrants on TV/Radio and through handouts.

[*English*]

Timings of Enquiry office at IA office, Bangalore

3174. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the present timings of the cancellation and Enquiry Counter at the Indian Airlines Office at Bangalore; and

(b) whether Government proposes to open the Cancellation Enquiry Counter at Indian Airlines Office, Bangalore round the clock for the facility of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) At main booking office at Kempa Godwa Road, enquiry and cancellation counter is functioning between 1000 hours and 2000 hours every day. Cancellations are accepted outside the above hours on round the clock basis by the security guard by recording the same in the register.

Enquiry, and cancellation counter at the airport is functioning between 0550 hours and 2120 hours.

(b) Facility for cancellation round the clock already exists at the main booking office. From the feed-back that is available, there is no demand for functioning of enquiry office beyond 2000 hours at the city office. All enquiries at the airport are answered during operating hours. However, in the event of delays/distruptions to any flight, the airport enquiry counter extends its hours accordingly.

[*Translation*]

Employment to Male and Female SC/ST Educated Persons

3175. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of educated male and female persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country who have been provided employment during the last one year; and

(b) the number of graduates among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Available information relates to the educated (matriculates and above) Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe job-seekers placed in employment through Employment Exchanges which form only one of the several channels for providing employment. This information for 1986 for all educated Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe job-seekers and graduates (including post-graduates) among them is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Number of Placements of Educated (Matri & Above) Scheduled Caste/Tribe Job-Seekers through Employment Exchanges-1986

Sl No	State/Union Territories	Number of Placements			
		Scheduled Caste		Scheduled Tribe	
		Total Educated	Graduates	Total Educated	Graduates
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	729	241	82	10
2	Arunachal Pradesh*				
3	Assam	137	41	194	27
4	Bihar	539	21	317	42
5	Gujarat	1224	189	1085	59
6	Haryana	843	120	7	1
7	Himachal Pradesh	560	56	234	24
8	Jammu & Kashmir	21	1	—	—
9	Karnataka	615	170	175	50
10	Kerala	762	111	95	4
11	Madhya Pradesh	1017	120	1305	135
12	Maharashtra	3018	543	1007	116
13	Manipur	1	1	124	25

1	2	3	4	5	6
14	Meghalaya	2	—	37	6
15	Mizoram	—	—	467	162
16	Nagaland	5	1	152	50
17	Orissa	1089	194	992	100
18	Punjab	425	49	—	—
19	Rajasthan	1368	631	434	157
20	Sikkim*				
21	Tamil Nadu	3844	661	60	5
22	Tripura	29	5	39	3
23	Uttar Pradesh	2090	582	70	9
24	West Bengal	433	128	138	12
25	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—
26.	Chandigarh	108	25	8	1
27	Dadra & Nagar Haveli**				
28.	Delhi	1834	111	64	14
29.	Goa, Daman & Diu	5	—	—	—
30.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	6	2	—	—
32.	Daman & Diu*				
	All India Total	20704	4003	7086	1012

Note :- 1.* No Employment Exchange is functioning in these States/Union Territories.

2.** One Employment Exchange is functioning in this Union Territory but data are not being received

3.@ Graduates include post-graduates and above

[English]

Better Passenger Facilities

3176. DR. KALAPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide

better passenger facilities by the Indian Airlines and to ensure better maintenance of its aircrafts to prevent any accident; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Efforts are continuously being made to provide improved facilities to passengers in all areas, such as;

(a) Reservations;
(b) Airport handling;
(c) Inflight service;
(d) Dissemination of arrival/departure information; and
(e) Baggage handling.

Indian Airlines fleet are subjected to rigid inspections in every check schedule carried out at specific intervals. The check schedule and its periodicity are approved by the Air-worthiness Authority and the manufacturers of the aircraft.

Misappropriation of Funds for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

3177. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:
SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBAY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has seen a news report published in the "Indian Express" dated 24 July, 1987 stating that funds for rehabilitation of bonded labour had been misappropriated by others;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure that funds meant for rehabilitation of bonded labour are used only for their welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act. 1976 the responsibility for identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers lies with the concerned State Governments. Framing of suitable rehabilitation schemes as well as their proper implementation are also the responsibilities of the concerned State Governments. The news item has been brought to the notice of the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh for appropriate action.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of Land Reforms

3178. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether uniformity has been maintained in implementation of land reforms in all the States by following the guidelines issued by Union Government in 1972 or land reforms have been implemented differently in various States alongwith details of the differences

(b) whether there are reports that some State Government's have been acting in contravention of the Land Ceiling Act and if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the progress made in implementation of the decision taken in the last meeting of the Revenue Ministers and details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) As regard ceiling limits for various categories of land, the existing ceiling limits prescribed in various State ceiling laws as compared to those suggested in the National Guidelines are indicated in the statement below.

(b) No such report has come to our notice.

(c) 1,85,661 acres land has been

declared surplus, possession of 1,77,400 acres has been taken and 79,571 acres have been distributed to eligible beneficiaries till June, 1987 as compared to the progress reported in the last meeting of Revenue Ministers held in November, 1986.

STATEMENT

(In hectares)

	State	Irrigated with two crops	Irrigated with one crop	Dry land
1	2	3	4	5
A.	Suggested in National Guidelines of 1972	4.05 to 7.28	10.93	21.85 relaxable in case of desert & hilly areas
B	*Actual Ceilings:*			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.05 to 7.28	6.07 to 10.93	14.16 to 21.85
2.	Assam	6.74	6.74	6.74
3.	Bihar	6 07 to 7.28	10 12	12.14 to 18.21
4.	Gujarat	4.05 to 7.29	6.07 to 10.93	8 09 to 21.85
5	Haryana	7.25	10.9	21.8
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4.05	6.07	12.14 to 28.33
7	J & K	3.6 to 5.06	—	5.95 to 9.20 (In Ladakh 7.7 hec.)
8.	Karnataka	4.05 to 8.10	10.12 to 12.14	21.85
9	Kerala	4.86 to 6.07	4.86 to 6.07	4.86 to 6.07
10.	Madhya Pradesh	7.28	10.93	21.85
11.	Maharashtra	7.28	10.93	21.85
12.	Manipur	5.00	5.00	6.00
13.	Orissa	4.05	6.07	12.14 to 18.21
14.	Punjab	7.00	11.00	28.50
15.	Rajasthan	7.28	10.93	21.85 to 70.82
16.	Tamil Nadu	4.86	12.14	24.28
17.	Sikkim	5.06	—	20.23

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Tripura	4.08	4.00	12.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	7.30	10.95	18.25
20.	West Bengal	5.00	—	7.00

[*English*]

Minimum Wages

3179. DR. A.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether on May 6, 1986, Union Government had issued to the State Governments drafts guidelines regarding minimum regional wages; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the response of State Governments, State-wise;

(c) whether the draft guidelines have been finalised; if so, the details thereof;

(d) what are the regional occupations wherein different States have shown willingness to enforce minimum wages; and

(e) the progress in implementation of the guidelines; if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir, The details are given in Statement-I. [Placed in Library *See* No. LT-4905/87]

(b) and (c). A summary of the replies from various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations is given in Statement-II [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4905/87].

In the light of the comments received, the matter was placed before the meeting of the State Labour Secretaries held on 29-30th April, 1987 and the State Labour Ministers' Conference held on the 20th May, 1987. In the light of the conclusions of the Labour Ministers' Conference, the guidelines have been finalised. These are given in Statement-II [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-4905/87].

(d) and (e). As per the guidelines, the Regional Minimum Wages Advisory Committee will consider the question of recommending the regional minimum wages employment-wise for selected employment(s) i.e. where minimum wages for the same employment(s) in one of a set of contiguous States caused problems in other State(s). The final guidelines have been forwarded to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on 24th July, 1987. The names of the employments have not been finalised.

Extension of EPF & ESI Facilities to Industries in Rajasthan

3180. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the names and details of industries and factories in Rajasthan where Employees Provident Fund and ESI facilities are not extended to the workers;

(b) the number of workers in Rajasthan who are deprived of these facilities;

(c) the steps being taken to extend these facilities to all the workers in Rajasthan and the time by which these are likely to be extended; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The available information is as given below :—

ESI Facilities

The EPF Act is at present applicable to 173 industries/classes of establishments employing 20 or more persons. The factories/establishments in Rajasthan, which fall in the specified industries/classes of establishments are coverable under the Act, after completion of prescribed infancy period of 3/5 years and their employees are entitled to the benefit of Provident Fund.

EPF Facilities

The ESI Act is applicable in the first instance, to factories employing 20 or more persons and using power in the manufacturing process. The Act is being gradually extended by the State Governments to certain new classes of establishments such as smaller power using factories employing 10 to 19 persons and factories not using power and employing 20 or more persons. The Act is generally implemented in the areas where there is concentration of 500 or more coverable employees and for whom viable medical arrangements can be made. As on 31.03.86, the ESI Corporation had identified 8 Industrial centres, with about 6,300 workers in Rajasthan who were yet to be brought within the purview of the ESI Act.

(c) and (d). The ESI Corporation has chalked out a programme in consultation with the Government of Rajasthan to implement the scheme at six industrial centres covering about 3,650 employees during the year 1987-88 The scheme may be implemented in the remaining centres next year, subject to completion of medical arrangements by the State Government

Aid to Andhra Pradesh for Drought Relief

3181. SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government have recently submitted a memorandum to Union Government seeking financial aid to combat drought in the State;

(b) if so, the amount requested for and the amount expected to be released; and

(c) the extent to which the released amount will meet the requirement of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

HUDCO Loan to Gujarat

3182. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of social housing schemes of different categories funded by Housing Urban Development Corporation in Gujarat, as on 31 December, 1986; and

(b) the number of schemes of different categories in the pipeline and the amount involved for the same in Gujarat as on 31 December, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) 520.

(b) The number of such Schemes was 125 with a loan amount of Rs. 5861.54 lakhs.

[*Translation*]

Air service to Sagar, M.P.

3183. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the time by which Sagar in Madhya Pradesh will be linked by Vayudoot service or Indian Airlines service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): At present there are no plans to airlink Sagar.

Telecast of Obscene and Horrifying Scenes

3184. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing trend of telecasting obscene and horrifying scenes on Television; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any action to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No obscene and horrifying scenes are telecast on Television.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Assistance for Small and Medium Towns in Orissa

3185. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of small and medium towns in Orissa identified for development in the Seventh plan under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Development of small and medium towns programme; and

(b) the amount allocated for the development of these small and medium towns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Keonjhar, Baripada and Bolangir.

(b) Each town approved during the Seventh Plan is eligible for a maximum Central assistance of Rs. 52 lakhs, including a compulsory component of Rs. 6 lakhs for Low Cost Sanitation, on matching basis. Besides, additional assistance of Rs. 8 lakhs for Low Cost Sanitation work can also be provided, if opted for, on matching basis.

Haldia Fertilizer Plant

3186. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI MATILAL HANSDA:
DR. DATTA SAMANT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete measures have been decided upon in order to expedite commissioning of the Hindustan Fertilizer unit at Haldia;

(b) if so, details of the same; and

(c) if not, whether winding up of the project is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b). As there were frequent equipment problems during the commissioning of the plant, Government has decided to have an end-to-end survey of the project conducted for which consultants are being engaged.

(c) Does not arise.

Criteria for Operation of more Flights

3187. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India maintains accounts showing profits from different routes;

(b) if so, the details of profit earned, route-wise and details of profitability; and

(c) the criteria prescribed for operating more or less flights on particular routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). This information will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Aid to Tamil Nadu for Agricultural Research

3188. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to aid Tamil Nadu Government for expanding technical know-how and to strengthen research in agriculture; and

(b) if so, the nature of the aid proposed to be provided to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Government of India has providing aid to Tamil Nadu Government for agricultural research chiefly through the aid provided by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in the form of All India Coordinated Research Projects, National Agricultural Research Project and ad-hoc research schemes as per details given in Statement below.

(b) For coordinated projects grant-in-aid is given on a 75 (Central): 25 (State) funding basis. For National Agricultural Research Project and ad-hoc research schemes central aid is given on 100% funding basis for the duration of the projects.

STATEMENT

All India Coordinated Research Projects
Agriculture
Agricultural University

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

1. Rice, Coimbatore.
2. Rice, Aduthurai.
3. Rice, Madurai.
4. Wheat, Coimbatore.
5. Sorghum, Coimbatore.
6. Pulses, Madurai.
7. Pulses, Coimbatore.
8. Pulses, Madurai (Off-season nursery and germplasm Unit).
9. Forage Crops, Coimbatore.
10. National Seed Project, Coimbatore.
11. Oilseeds (Groundnut), Vridhachalam.
12. Oilseeds (Sunflower), Coimbatore.
13. Oilseeds (Off-season nursery and Groundnut), Aliyarnagar.
14. Oilseeds (Castor), Salem.
15. Oilseeds (Assisted by IRDC), Vridhachalam.
16. Oilseeds (Assisted by IDRC), Kaveripattinam.
17. Oilseeds (Assisted by IDRC), Sirivilliputhur.
18. Sugarcane, Cuddalore.
19. Cotton, Chilakaluripeta.
20. Cotton, Kovilpatti.
21. Cotton, Srivilliputtur.
22. Cotton, Coimbatore.
23. Jute and Allied Fibres, Coimbatore.
24. Tropical Fruits, Coimbatore.
25 Arid Fruits, Aruppukkottai.
26. Floriculture, Coimbatore.
27. Tuber Crops, Coimbatore.
28. Vegetables, Coimbatore.
29. Vegetables, Kovilpatti.
30. Mushroom, Coimbatore.
31. Nematode Pests, Coimbatore.
32. Dryland Agriculture, Kovilpatti.
33. Water Management, Madurai.
34. Water Management, Bhavanisagar.
35. Correlation of Soil Tests with Crop Response, Coimbatore.
36. Improvement of Soil Physical Conditions, Coimbatore.
37. Long-term Fertilizer Experiments, Coimbatore.
38. Micro-nutrients of Soil and Plants, Coimbatore.
39. Biological Nitrogen Fixation, Coimbatore.
40. Agronomic Research, Bhavanisagar
41. Agronomic Research, Thanjavur.
42. Agronomic Research (ECF), Salem.
43. Agronomic Research (ECF), Tiruchirapalli.
44. Agronomic Research (ECF), Villuparam.
45. Agricultural Implements and Machinery, Coimbatore.

46. Energy Requirements in Agricultural Sector, Coimbatore. (Agricultural Engineering and Home Science).
47. Renewable Energy Sources for Agriculture and Agro-based Industries, Coimbatore (Biogas, Solar, Wind).
48. Harvest and Post-Harvest Technology, Coimbatore.
49. Power Tillers, Coimbatore.
50. Agro-forestry, Coimbatore.
51. Underutilised/Under Exploited Plants, Coimbatore.
52. Weed Control, Coimbatore.
53. Post-Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops, Periyakulam.
54. Production of Breeder Seeds of Oilseeds (Groundnut, Soyabean), Coimbatore.
55. Production of Breeder Seeds of Oilseeds (Sesamum. Castor), Tindivanum.
56. Production of Super Elite and Elite Sunflower Seeds, Bhavanisagar.
57. CIAE-IRRI, Industrial Extension Project on Small Farm Machinery, Coimbatore.

STATE GOVERNMENT

1. Primary Data Collection—Pilot studies of estimation of birth and death rates in bovines.
2. Primary Data Collection—Sample survey for study of constraints in the transfer of new technology under field condition.
3. Primary Data Collection –Pilot sample survey for estimation of production of hides and skins.
4. Primary Data Collection—Pilot sample survey of estimating area of grazing land and its utilization in Tamil Nadu.

ANIMAL SCIENCE

AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

1. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
2. Sheep Breeding for Fine Wool, Sandyanallah.
3. Sheep Breeding for Mutton, Kattupakkam.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECTS
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore

1. Vridhachalam.
2. Paiyur.
3. Coimbatore.
4. Aduthurai, Trichy.
5. Aruppukotai.
6. Kanyakumari.
7. Thadiankudisai.

AD-HOC RESEARCH SCHEMES

		Number of Schemes
	AGRICULTURE	
1.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	14
	ANIMAL SCIENCE	
1.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural, Coimbatore	1

FISHERIES

1. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore 1

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

1. -Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore 1

PL-480 RESEARCH SCHEMES

1. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore 2

RESEARCH SCHEMES UNDER GENERAL RESEARCH FUND OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

1. Avinashilingam Home Science College, Coimbatore 1

Additions/Alterations in Paschimpuri

3189. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA:
SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA:
SHRI UTTAM BHAI H. PATEL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that minor or major alterations or additions have been made in Janata flats of Paschimpuri, New Delhi since allotment;

(b) the flat numbers in which minor or major additions/alterations have not been made till date;

(c) if so, the number of cases registered upto date u/s 29 and 34A of Delhi Development Act; and

(d) the reasons for not registering the cases against all the allottees of the flats who have altered their houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 2695 Janata flats in that area, out of which additions and alterations have been made in 1626 cases and in the remaining 1069 cases there are no additions and alterations.

(c) and (d). 106 cases have been registered under section 29 and 34A of Delhi Development Act. Action is also being taken in the remaining cases.

Allotment of Shops and Establishments to STs by NDMC

3190. SHRI SIMON TIGGA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether New Delhi Municipal Committee has not been able to provide various categories of shops and establishments which had been reserved for Scheduled Tribes for the last many years;

(b) whether Government are aware that the requisite percentage of shops and establishments have not been allocated under the declared policy of Government by the New Delhi Municipal Committee having been reserved for the Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) what steps the New Delhi Municipal Committee propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The N.D.M.C. have informed that the Government orders regarding reservation of shops of various categories have already been followed by the Committee. The allotment of shops/kiosks in the shopping complexes of the N.D.M.C. is being made on Tender basis which are open to all. However, 12.8% of shops/kiosks, as per the guidelines issued by the Government, are reserved for SC/ST which are allotted

by the N.D.M.C. at the reserved rate to the applicants by draw of lots.

[*Translation*]

Ownership rights to Factory Workers

3191. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for giving ownership rights to factory workers is under consideration of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for giving ownership rights to factory workers. However, the Ministry of Finance has introduced the Employees' Stock Option Scheme applicable to all Public Limited Companies. Under this Scheme the employees are given three options to save at three different rates. With the amount saved, the employees are issued Convertible Debentures which are converted to equity after 5 years. The Scheme is voluntary on the part of the employer or company as also voluntary on the part of the employees.

[*English*]

Conversion of Children Park into a Private School in Lodhi Road, New Delhi

3192. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for allotting a land being used as a children park in Lodhi Road, New Delhi for a private school;

(b) whether this allotment is in accord with Government's policy; and

(c) if not, the action taken to restore the land for its public use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The land allotted for the nursery school in Lodhi Road Complex, New Delhi is earmarked for primary/nursery school in the Zonal Development Plan of the Area.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Shortage of Drinking Water in Kutch

3193. SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kutch has been facing drought conditions for the last four years and there is shortage of drinking water there and if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme for obtaining potable water from sea water; and

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme will be implemented and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon and the place in Kutch where this project will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Kutch has been facing drought conditions during 1985, 1986 and 1987. 689 villages and hamlets have been provided with water supply. Remaining 48 villages and hamlets are yet to be covered. In addition there are 50 villages which require augmentation of water supply. No scheme has been received from the Govt. of Gujarat for obtaining potable water from sea water in the Kutch area. However, Govt. has provided assistance for installation of two demonstration desalination plants for field trials located at Adalsar and Malika villages in Surendra Nagar District of Gujarat.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Reservation of Shops by DDA in Shopping Centre

3194. CHAUDHARY RAM PARKASH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted by the DDA in the reservation of shops for the Scheduled Castes/Tribes in each Shopping Centre separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that the shops in a shopping Centre are first sold/disposed of to the General Category and out of the left over shops, reservation is made for the Scheduled Castes/Tribes; and

(c) if so, the reasons why the shops are not reserved/earmarked for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and general category simultaneously, when the total number of shops available for disposal is well known to the DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) At present applications for allotment of shops to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are invited through Press Advertisement. The applicants are required to submit the applications alongwith a bank draft of Rs. 2,000/- The shops available for allotment to this category are then allotted to them through draw of lots by the computer system. After the draw is held, demand notices are issued to the successful allottees for making payment of 25% of the reserve price of the shop within 60 days. The balance premium is payable in 24 equal monthly instalments. Interest @ 6% is charged for these instalments.

(b) and (c). It is not a fact that undisposed or un-sold shops are allotted to SC/STs. 12.8% of the shops upto 9.9.86 and 25% of the shops thereafter are being placed at the disposal of Commercial Estate Branch were/are kept reserved in all areas and the remaining are disposed of through auction to general category or through allotment to other eligible categories.

[*Translation*]

Short Term Loans for Agriculture

3195. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Union Government provide short term loans for agricultural inputs to various States and if so, the names of the States to whom such loans have been given;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of the amount of short term loans demanded by various States during last three years and the amount sanctioned to them by Government, and

(c) the names of the States to whom the amount was not sanctioned according to their requirement or demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Central Government provides short term loans to the various States, separately for Kharif and Rabi seasons, for distribution of agricultural inputs viz. Fertilizers, Seeds and Pesticides. Funds available for release of short term loan assistance to States being limited in comparison to their demand it could not be possible to meet the entire demand in respect of most of the States. The details of short term loan sanctioned and the amount asked for by each State during the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Short-term, Loan demanded and sanctioned to States

(Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	State	1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
		Demanded	Sanctioned	Demanded	Sanctioned	Demanded	Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.00	10.00	26.75	10.80	10.00*	10.00
2.	Assam	9.00	5.86	5.00*	5.15	5.50*	1.00
3.	Bihar	65.00	21.05	Not received	20.00	30.00	11.03
4.	Gujarat	26.00	10.22	36.47	16.30	55.00	35.87
5.	Haryana	47.45	16.30	49.50	13.80	51.00	17.46
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1.25	1.04	1.60	1.00	2.00	2.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.75*	1.55	8.00	2.50	14.50*	2.00
8.	Karnataka	38.00	14.40	18.00	13.40	25.00	17.85
9.	Kerala	5.00	3.60	6.00	4.10	4.00*	2.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	16.00*	24.50	40.50	20.65	70.39	11.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Maharashtra	52.00	16.50	39.50	19.50	48.25	30.84
12.	Manipur	Not received	0.70	2.00*	0.75	2.24	0.63
13.	Meghalaya	2.00	1.42	2.00	1.25	2.12	0.47
14.	Orissa	20.10	13.12	30.00	11.50	21.25	10.75
15.	Punjab	90.00	22.85	100.00	25.85	121.00	39.78
16.	Rajasthan	30.17	22.14	60.38	18.00	36.67	7.75
17.	Tamil Nadu	8.25*	14.35	35.67	49.76	11.35	
18.	Tripura	Not received	0.10	Not received	0.10	0.80*	0.60
19.	Uttar Pradesh	100.00	42.50	150.00	43.00	73.50	38.48
20.	West Bengal	55.60	17.00	50.00	15.00	70.00	9.23
	Total	596.57	260.00	661.37	256.00	693.98	260.00

*For one season only.

[*English*]

Loans given by Fisheries Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3196. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of loanees granted loans by the Fisheries Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for purchasing country boats fitted with engines during 1986-87;

(b) the total number of fishermen having their own fishing country boats in A & N Islands; and

(c) the total fish catch, marine and inland in the Island since January, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Water Supply Under World Bank Project in Madhya Pradesh

3197. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal for augmentation of water supply in 10 towns of Madhya Pradesh including Jabalpur under World Bank Project;

(b) if so, the details regarding the decision taken by Union Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) World Bank Project Preparation Missions have visited Madhya Pradesh. They have identified some issues relating to the project, The main issues are (i) institutional arrangements; (ii) plan allocation for the sector and feasibility of scaling down the project; and (iii) revision of water tariffs. The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh have not yet communicated their decision on the above. Further follow-up with the World Bank can be taken only after Govt. of Madhya Pradesh communicates their views on the above issues.

(c) Does not arise.

Unsatisfactory Implementation of Rural Employment Programme

3199. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is maximum poverty in the rural areas, particularly in adivasi areas and most of the population from this area have shifted to big cities;

(b) the Government's policy in regard to providing jobs or other facilities in the rural areas under the 20-Point Programme;

(c) the progress of rural employment programme upto June, 1987 in physical and financial terms, Statewise; and

(d) the extent to which these programmes have helped in reduction of rural unemployment till June, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) The 38th Round of National Sample Survey (NSS), 1983 has indicated that 39.9% of the rural population is below poverty line. It is not correct to say that most of the population from the adivasi areas has migrated to big cities.

(b) In addition to the rural development

programmes creating employment opportunities in the county, the Government has launched direct programme of providing self and wage employment to the people below poverty line. The major programmes in this direction are Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) which provides self-employment opportunities to people below proverty line by giving them income generating assets, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) which provide gainful wage employment opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed rural poor.

(c) and (d). A Statement showing the progress upto June 1987 in the year 1987-88 is given below

STATEMENT

State/UT wise details of expenditure incurred and families assisted under IRDP, expenditure incurred and employment generated under NREP and RLEGP during 1987-88 (upto June, 1987)

Sl. No.	State/UT	IRDP		NREP		RLEGP	
		Expenditure (Rs. lakhs)	Families assisted (Nos.)	Expenditure Rs lakhs)	Employment generated (Lakh Mandays)	Expenditure incurred Rs. lakhs)	Employment generated (Lakh Mandays)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	732.83	29745	990.09	42.27	1076.3/	49.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.06	108	1.26	0.07	1.31	0.06
3.	Assam	NR	7264	203.11	9.46	282.35	13.98
4.	Bihar	987.24	62161	1764.58	63.08	1654.00	56.12
5.	Gujarat	17.17*	11895	753.29	31.70	379.02	18.29
6.	Haryana	135.02	6194	44.52	0.72	65.20	1.25
7.	Himachal Pradesh	110.95	5285	54.20	2.53	50.40	2.40
8.	J & K	78.04	3748	82.19	3.20	1.44	0.18
9.	Karnataka	175.25	11459	138.86	6.19	399.05	28.42
10.	Kerala	19.64*	1513	96.50	5.84	230.20	13.24
11.	Madhya Pradesh	467.32	26936	1231.78	76.28	576.30	25.59
12.	Maharashtra	538.29	22818	329.63	17.32	526.25	40.31
13.	Manipur	27.34	783	10.03	0.29	23.61	0.68
14.	Meghalaya	16.70	447	20.25	0.76	17.64	0.79
15.	Mizoram	10.70	—	—	—	4.90	0.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Nagaland	33.76	1016	20.00	0.80	7.50	0.50
17.	Orissa	280.64	18039	785.82	42.14	561.87	31.83
18.	Punjab	179.91	10846	63.94	1.72	179.51	4.03
19.	Rajasthan	191.00	9654	527.18	35.02	264.51	19.82
20.	Sikkim	3.51	143	12.99	0.81	16.15	0.83
21.	Tamil Nadu	486.54	32073	162.51	13.94	417.26	23.30
22.	Tripura	59.18	1892	69.85	3.42	13.45	0.58
23.	Uttar Pradesh	979.88	55226	2079.08	102.59	2235.96	64.04
24.	West Bengal	635.66	38945	1025.37	47.83	706.72	37.13
25.	A & N Islands	NR	—	2.75	0.08	—	—
26.	Chandigarh	NR	—	2.75	0.08	—	—
27.	D & N Haveli	1.28	64	5.49	0.51	1.85	0.23
28.	Delhi	NR	475	1.70	0.05	1.47	0.20
29.	Goa, Daman & Diu	10.82@	514@	24.12	1.04	20.91	0.87
30.	Lakshadweep	5.19	49	6.61	0.34	3.65	0.91
31.	Pondicherry	5.38	156	7.46	0.22	8.15	0.29
	ALL INDIA :	6196.97	359672	10518.62	510.77	9730.18	434.95

NR—Not Reported
*—Relates to April, 1987 only
@—Relates to Goa State.

Provident Fund pending Cases

3200. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of provident fund cases pending as on 31st March, 1987;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken for early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) According to available information, 39,990 prosecutions cases filed under Section 14 of the EPF and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 were pending trial in various courts as on 31st March, 1986.

(b) and (c). In most of the cases, the pendency is mainly due to heavy work load on the courts. The State Governments of Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal have, therefore, been addressed to designate one or two courts, at certain specified pla-

ces in their States, where there was large pendency of prosecution cases as Special Courts for trying Provident Fund cases exclusively.

Mango Cultivation in Maharashtra

3201. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently considerable experimentation has taken place in the field of mango cultivation in Sindhudurg district of the Konkan region of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, whether more incentives will be given for such experimentation so that improved mango cultivation can be introduced in different regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPEARTION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Telecast/Broadcast of Programmes in Bangla

3202. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BRAODCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of AIR and Doordarshan Kendras which broadcast/telecast programmes in Bangla (Bengali);

(b) the time given to Bangla programme as a percentage of total broadcasting/telecasting time during 1986; and

(c) the composition of the listening area of each of these stations in terms of districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) Doordarshan Kendra Calcutta telecast programmes in Bengali in its regional services on a regular basis. These programmes are covered by Relay Transmitters. Bengali programmes also feature in the regional programme chunk of Delhi Kendra on rotation. The names of AIR Stations which broadcast programmes in Bengali are Calcutta, Silchar, Siliguri, Kurseong, Agartala and Port Blair.

(b) Of the total telecasting time in the regional service to Doordarshan Kendra Calcutta approximately 89% was put out in Bengali in 1986.

The time given to Bengali programme in 1986 as a percentage of total broadcasting time by AIR is indicated below:—

Name of AIR Station	Percentage
Calcutta	59.8
Silchar	56.4
Siliguri	57.7
Agartala	21.1
Kurseong	6.4
Port Blair	3.3

(c) The details of the listening area covered by AIR Stations may be seen in Statement-I and coverage in respect of Doordarshan in Statement-II below.

STATEMENT-I

The composition of the listening area of each of the earlier mentioned AIR Stations

Name of Stations Broadcasting programmes in Bengali		Listening Area
Calcutta	—	Southern and Eastern Parts of West Bengal, Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Bankura, Burdwan, Midnapore and also half of Malda.
Kurseong	—	Darjeeling
Siliguri	—	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Cooch-Bihar, West Dinajpur, Malda
Silchar	—	Cachar and more than half of North Cachar Districts of Assam
Port-Blair	—	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
Agartala	—	Major portion of Tripura State

STATEMENT-II

Districts getting covered in West Bengal with HPTs of Calcutta, Asansol and Murshidabad are indicated below:—

1. Calcutta
2. Madia
3. Bankura
4. Puruliya
5. Hugli
6. Birbhum
7. Murshidabad
8. Bardhaman
9. Medinipur
10. Maldah
11. 24-Parganas
12. Howrah

Besides the above, the following districts of Bihar are covered by HPTs Asansol and Murshidabad

	District	Transmitter providing coverage
1.	Santhal Parganas	HPTs Asansol & Murshidabad
2.	Giridhi	HPT, Asansol
3.	Dhanbad	HPT, Asansol

Taking Over of Khowai Airport, Tripura

3203. SHRI AJOY BISWAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of

Tripura has requested the Indian Airlines to release the Khowai Airfield, to State Government;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Indian Airlines so far in this respect; and

(c) the causes of inordinate delay in handling over the airfield?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c). The Government of Tripura had requested the National Airports Authority to release the Khowai aerodrome. The request has not been agreed to by the National Airports Authority.

Profit Earned by Aralam State Farm

3204. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Aralam State Farm, Cannanore is earning profit since 1985, if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(b) whether Union Government propose to introduce any modern technology to improve/increase production of agricultural produce in the farm, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether fresh allocation is being made to develop Aralam State Farm, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The accounting year of the State Farms Corporation of India is from July to June and the accounts for the year 1986-87 have not been finalised. The profit of the Central State Farm, Aralam, during 1984-85 and 1985-86 are given below:—

Year	Profit (Rs. in lakhs)
1984-85	1.04
1985-86	2.47

(b) The State Farms Corporation of India have taken the following steps to improve performance and production of crops at Central State Farm, Aralam:—

(i) Introduction of multiplication of new varieties of Cashew-nut and black pepper after getting the planting material from National Research Centre for Spices, Calicut, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasargode etc.

(ii) Elite Progeny Orchard Scheme to preserve and propagate planting material of outstanding fruit plants;

(iii) Raising Elite seed garden of Coconut for production of hybrid seed units of coconut.

(iv) Construction of check dams for storing water used for irrigation. Sprinklers and lift irrigation has been also introduced

(v) Aerial spraying for cashewnut plantations.

(c) Development of SFCI farms is a continuing process. Allocations are made to SFCI for this purpose from time to time depending on the requirement of each farm and availability of resources.

Telecast of Malayalam Films during 1985-86

3205. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be

pleased to state the names of Malayalam feature films telecast on the National network of Doordarshan during 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): The following Malayalam feature films were telecast on the National Network during 1986:—

1. Peruvazhiambalam
2. Mukhamukham
3. Adaminte Variellu
4. Mani Muzhakkam
5. Killipattu.

Publication of Weeklies

3206. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the first five largest circulated weeklies in India; and

(b) the particulars regarding the place of publication, number of copies and the languages in which these weeklies are published?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The names of the first five largest circulated weeklies in India, their place of publication, circulation and language are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the weekly	Place of publication	Language	Circulation as on 31.12.1985
1.	Mangalam	Kottayam	Malayalam	13,96,283
2.	Kumudam	Madras	Tamil	6,23,807
3.	Malayala Manorama	Kottayam	Malayalam	5,48,728
4	Chala Chithram	Kottayam	Malayalam	3,15,808
5.	Chitralekha	Bombay	Gujarati	2,55,467

Splitting the Work of C.I.F.R.I.

3207. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the activities of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute at Barrackpore have been trifurcated since April, 1987 if so. the details of activities envisaged for these units:

(b) the reasons for trifurcation of the Institute;

(c) whether it is a fact that any protest was lodged by West Bengal Government in this regard, and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). To give thrust in the identified priority areas of freshwater agriculture, brackishwater fish farming, coldwater fisheries and riverine and lacustrine fisheries, the following three new Institutes have been established;

(i) Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA)

(ii) Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA)

(iii) National Research Centre on Coldwater Fisheries.

For the purpose, the areas of research were reallocated resulting in the transfer of brackishwater fishery research from Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute and the erstwhile Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute to CIBA. In the process, the erstwhile CIFRI has been reorganised as Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute (CICFRI) with a mandate of research on riverine and lacustrine fisheries.

The major activities of the Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute (CICFRI) are to study dynamics of exploitable fishery resources of rivers, lakes and reservoirs etc. and to evolve management norms. The N.R.C. on Coldwater Fisheries is to carry out basic/applied research on Coldwater Fisheries for the development of upland water areas of the country. The major activities of Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture are to conduct research in nutrition, physiology, genetics, pathology, pond environmental monitoring and aquaculture engineering, to develop advanced freshwater fish farming systems for commercial fin fish/shell fish. The Central Institute for Brackishwater Aquaculture is to conduct multidisciplinary mission oriented basic applied research to develop appropriate technologies of Brackishwater Aquaculture.

(c) and (d). Chief Minister of West Bengal and Minister of State Incharge Department of Fisheries, West Bengal, had drawn the attention of the then Union Minister for Agriculture towards the re-organisation of fisheries research and had expressed their fears regarding reduction in fisheries research activities by ICAR in West Bengal. The Chief Minister and the Minister, Government of West Bengal were duly assured by the then Union Minister for Agriculture that there would be no reduction in fisheries research activities in West Bengal as a result of this re-organisation. On the other hand, fisheries research activities by ICAR in West Bengal are being further strenghtened and streamlined.

Sheep and Wool Development in Karnataka

3208. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to encourage sheep and wool development in Karnataka; and

(b) whether Union Government have examined the proposal sent by Karnataka State seeking World Bank aid for the purpose; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Government of Karnataka has prepared and submitted the project proposal for sheep development in 9 districts under World Bank Assistance in order to encourage sheep and wool development in the State. This project has been examined in this Ministry and State Government has been requested to make some modifications.

Finalisation of N.C.R.

3209. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have finalised the National Capital Region Plan keeping in view the requirement as on 2001 A.D.;

(b) if so, a brief outline of this plan along with the likely date when the commencement of the implementation would begin;

(c) whether the neighbouring State

Governments are extending their full cooperation in this regard

(d) if so, the nature of cooperation from the State Governments of UP, Haryana and Rajasthan; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by Government to persuade the State Governments in this regard alongwith their response to the efforts of the Union Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The Plan is being finalised with full cooperation of the State Governments of UP, Haryana and Rajasthan.

(e) Does not arise.

Expansion of Song & Drama Division Field Publicity etc.

3210. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of state for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 300 on 9th December, 1985 regarding expansion of the network of Song & Drama Division Field Publicity etc. and state:

(a) the details of the new units opened and the steps taken to expand the services of Song and Drama Division, Field Publicity and Research and Development Organisations of All India Radio and Doordarshan during the period upto 31st March, 1987;

(b) whether any fresh proposals in this regard are also under consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, Statewise/Union territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) SONG & DRAMA DIVISION: In the current plan, no new units have been opened upto 31.3.1987.

DIRECTORATE OF FIELD PUBLICITY: In the current plan, no new unit was opened upto 31.3.1987.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATIONS OF ALL INDIA RADIO AND DOORDARSHAN: The Research and Development Organisation of All India Radio and Doordarshan is a single unit located at New Delhi. As part of its expansion, during the VII Plan a UNDP aided project for 'Establishment of a Centre for Digital Techniques in Broadcasting has been sanctioned. The project envisages building up of knowhow and expertise for enhanced induction of digital techniques in the broadcast networks. The total sanctioned outlay is $348,150 (Rs. 42 lakhs) as UNDP input and Rs. 59.356 lakhs as Government of India input.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Action Plan for Specific Targets

3211. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments had agreed to submit an action plan for achieving specific targets within the following six months and for the year ending March, 1988 latest by 28 February, 1987 as per decision taken at the meeting of the State Ministries, Secretaries and Chief Engineers of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation held in New Delhi on 11 and 12 February, 1987;

(b) if so, the names of the State Governments which have failed to submit either or both the reports as on 28 February, 1987; and

(c) whether Union Government would ensure that the financial constraints do not stand in the way of implementation and completion of all these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on a series of further discussions with the State Governments, specific targets for 1987-88 for coverage of problem villages under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Sub-Missions under the Technology Mission and Mini Mission Project areas were finalised and ccmmunicated to States/UTs for implementation. Most of the State Governments failed to submit the report by 28th February, 1987

(c) Yes, Sir.

Expansion of Vayudoot Service

3212. SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places which have been connected by Vayudoot Service upto 30th June, 1987, State-wise;

(b) whether any more places are also likely to be covered in the near future,

(c) if so, the names of the places which have been approved for this coverage and the likely dates by which each one of them would be covered;

(d) whether the State Governments/representatives of the people have suggested any more sites which are being considered by the Government for this purpose during the Seventh Plan period; and

(e) if so, the names of the places statewise alongwith the likely date by which a decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Statement-I showing stations, statewise, airlinked by Vayudoot upto 30th June, 1987 is given below.

(b) and (c). Subject to development of infrastructure facilities, economic viability of operations and availability of aircraft capacity, Vayudoot has plans to airlink 41 new stations during the Seventh Plan period. Statement-II listing these stations is given below.

(d) and (e). Apart from the stations listed in Annexure-II above, there has been a continuous flow of suggestions and requests from different quarters for airlinking of various places. Constraints of airstrips capacity absence of operational airstrips and paucity of resources do not permit inclusion of these stations in the immediate expansion plan of Vayudoot.

STATEMENT-I

Statewise list of stations airlinked by Vayudoot up to 30 6 1987

			Stations
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	1	Hyderabad
		2	Rajamundry
		3	Gudapah
		4	Tirupati
		5	Warrangal
		6	Vishakhapatnam
		7	Vijayawada
		8	Ramagundum
2	ASSAM	9	Silchar
		10	Guwahati
		11	Dibrugarh
		12	Lilabari
		13	Jorhat
		14	Tezpur
3	BIHAR	15	Jamshedpur (Singhbhum)
		16	Ranchi
		17	Patna
4	GUJARAT	18	Kandla
		19	Ahmedabad
		20	Bhavnagar
		21	Surat
		22	Keshod
		23	Porbandar

5	HARYANA	24	Hissar
6	HIMACHAL PRADESH	25	Kulu
		26	Shimla
7	JAMMU & KASHMIR	—	
8	KARNATAKA	27	Mysore
		28	Bangalore
		29	Bellary
		30	Mangalore
9	KERALA	31	Cochin
10	MADHYA PRADESH	32	Guna
		33	Gwalior
		34	Bhopal
		35	Indore
11	MAHARASHTRA	36	Bombay
		37	Aurangabad
		38	Ratnagiri
		39	Nanded
		40	Pune
		41	Nagpur
		42	Sholapur
12	MANIPUR	43	Imphal
13	MEGHALAYA	44	Shillong (East Khasi Hill District)
14	NAGALAND	45	Dimapur
15	ORISSA	46	Rourkela (Sundergarh)
		47	Bhubaneshwar
		48	Jeypore
16	PUNJAB	49	Ludhiana
		50	Amritsar
17	RAJASTHAN	51	Kota
		52	Jaipur
		53	Bikaner
		54	Jaisalmer
		55	Jodhpur
18	SIKKIM	—	
19	TAMIL NADU	56	Madras
		57	Coimbatore
		58	Madurai
		59	Thanjavur
		60	Neyveli
20	TRIPURA	61	Kamalpur
		62	Kailashahar
		63	Agartala
21	UTTAR PRADESH	64	Dehradun
		65	Pantnagar (Nainital)
		66	Lucknow
		67	Rai Barelley
		68	Kanpur
		69	Agra
		70	Allahabad
		71	Gorakhpur
		72	Varanasi
22	WEST BENGAL	73	Cooch Behar
		74	Calcutta
		75	Malda
		76	Balurghat
23	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	77	Passighat
		78	Zero
		79	Tezu
		80	Along
		81	Daparizo
24	GOA	82	Goa
25	MIZORAM	83	Aizawl

STATEMENT-II

List of stations proposed to be airlinked by Vayudoot during the current Five Year Plan period

1	Rupsi
2	Misa
3	Nazira
4	Sadiya
5	Itanagar
6	Gaya
7	Purnea
8	Dhanbad
9	Dwarka
10	Rajouri
11	Surankot
12	Kishtwar
13	Jammu
14	Raichur
15	Hubli
16	Calicut
17	Jagdalpur
18	Bilaspur
19	Bhilai
20	Kohlapur
21	Jalgaon

22 Akola
23 Chandrapur
24 Jharsuguda
25 Gopalpur
26 Patiala
27 Jullundur
28 Pathankot
29 Abu Road
30 Alwar
31 Ajmer
32 Ganganagar
33 Gangtok
34 Tuticorin
35 Tirunelveli
36 Chetinad
37 Faizabad
38 Ghazipur
39 Pondichery
40 Diu
41 Agatti

Security at Airports and IAAI

3213. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Airports Authority of India has little control over the security arrangements because of the multiplicity of specialised agencies presently operating within the Indira Gandhi International Airport, new Delhi and other International Airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make the IAAI more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Security at airports is primarily the responsibility of Director Civil Aviation Security. However, at international airports, International Airports Authority of India is a member of the Airport Security Committee which jointly solve common problems.

Aid to U.P. for increasing production of Pulses

3214. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.P. has a great potential for the growing pulses; and

(b) if so, the assistance rendered to State under the National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) for increasing the production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Pulses Development project was started in 1986-87. The assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh under this Project during 1986-87 was Rs. 67 04 lakhs as Central Share.

Production of Coarse Grains

3215 DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coarse grains in the country has gone down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether coarse grains is the staple food for the poor people living in Eastern Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to stabilise the production of coarse grains at a higher level, particularly in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Table below gives all-India production of coarse grains in the country during the past few years:

Year	Production (Million tonnes)
1982-83	27.8
1983-84	33.9
1984-85	31.2
1985-86	26.5
1986-87	28.0
(Anticipated)	28.0-28 5

It would be seen from above that the production has been fluctuating from year to year.

During the period 1967-68 to 1985-86 the production of coarse grains increased at compound rate of 0.66 per cent per annum.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir. Rice and wheat constitute staple food in Uttar Pradesh.

(d) In order to stabilise the production of coarse grains at a higher level, particularly in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh, following steps have been taken:

(i) Expansion of area under new high yielding varieties/hybrids.

(ii) Conservation of soil moisture and its efficient utilisation with the adoption of dry farming techniques through integrated watershed development.

(iii) Adoption of area approach in potential districts for increasing the production. Each State may identify the potential areas for different crops and concentrate production efforts in these areas.

(iv) Preparation of contingent plans for aberrant weather with full support of seed and credit.

(v) Timely and adequate supply of inputs.

(vi) Organisation of special training programmes at village level and use of mass communication media like radio, TV, etc. for the propagation of new production technology.

(vii) Evolving suitable package of practices keeping in view local conditions through extension systems.

(viii) Effective and full utilisation of Central Sector Scheme of minikit programme of Millets, including propagation of new technology, which includes free distribution of minikits of seeds of new varieties, training of extension personnel at district level and propagation of new technology of maize cultivation on the holdings of SC and ST farmers.

Intensification of Research and Development Work on Oilseeds

3216. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research efforts for developing high yielding varieties of oilseeds have been intensified and import of such varieties from countries like Malaysia, Egypt and Mexico considered; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Research efforts have been intensified and introduction of elite seed materials of various oilseed crops from different countries through national Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi, is continuing. Introduc-

tions made in recent years are presented in the Statement below.

Egypt has supplied uptil now 49 samples of sunflower and 15 samples of sesame. Receipts from Malaysia and Mexico are nil.

With the on-set of the Technology Mission on Oilseeds, activity milestones for each of the oilseed, crops have been fixed and specific responsibility for the implementation of the programmes to different centres has been assigned.

STATEMENT

Elite Seed Materials of Different Oilseed Crops Introduced through National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi During 1985 to July, 1987

Crop	Years		
	1985	1986	1987 (till July, 31)
Groundnut	22	514	70
Brassica	17	266	162
Sunflower	55	97	192
Safflower	1479	1221	1632
Sesame	10	32	10
Other Oilseeds	96	76	455
Total:	2679	2206	2521

Profit earned by Doordarshan during 1985-86

3217. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned by Doordarshan from its sponsored programmes during 1985-86; and

(b) the manner in which the profits have been utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Since Doordarshan is not a Commercial Organisation, its accounting is not done in terms of profit and loss. The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan through commercial and sponsored programmes during 1985-86 is Rs. 60.20 crores

(b) The net revenue is utilised for development of AIR and Doordarshan.

[*Translation*]

Master Plan for Gopalganj Town

3218. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Bihar has submitted the Master Plan for Gopalganj Town to Union Government for approval; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). No such Master Plan has been submitted.

[English]

Cheating of Jobseekers in Orissa

3219. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI LALITESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint that labour contractors from Orissa have collected huge amounts from the workers to send them abroad to work;

(b) if so, which are the construction companies/individuals involved in this racket;

(c) the number of persons arrested for the offences; and

(d) the stage at which the cases stand at present

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. Some complaints have been received against M/s Continental Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., Nehru Place, New Delhi and S/Shri R.C. Pradhan, B.R. Bishnoi, R.C. Prusthy and Laxman Prusthy, labour contractors from Orissa. Three persons have been arrested by the police and their cases are now under trial in the Court.

Number of Blinds Registered with Employment Exchanges

3220. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blind persons registered with the employment exchanges throughout the country as on 1st January, 1987 State-wise; and

(b) how many of them have been provided employment till December, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The number of blind job-seekers State-wise, on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 31st December, 1986 is given in the Statement below.

(b) During 1986, 320 blind job-seekers were placed. This number has, however, no relationship with the Live Register, indicated in reply to part (a) as the Live Register is updated at the end of every month.

STATEMENT

State-wise Number of Blind Job-seekers on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1986

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	No. of blind persons on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1986
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2459
2.	Arunachal Pradesh*.	—
3	Assam	334
4.	Bihar	506
5.	Gujarat	596
6	Haryana	221
7.	Himachal Pradesh	42
8	Jammu & Kashmir	29
9.	Karnataka	674
10.	Kerala	665
11	Madhya Pradesh	476
12.	Maharashtra	1577

1	2	3
13.	Manipur	65
14.	Meghalaya	17
15.	Mizoram	—
16.	Nagaland	15
17.	Orissa	381
18.	Punjab	76
19.	Rajasthan	354
20.	Sikkim*	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	1861
22.	Tripura	91
23.	Uttar Pradesh	1416
24.	West Bengal	1287
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3
26.	Chandigarh	15
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli**	—
28.	Delhi	554
29.	Goa	16
30.	Lakshadweep	2
31.	Pondicherry	77
32.	Daman & Diu	—
All-India Total		13809

Note: 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning in these States/UT.

2. ** One Employment Exchange is functioning in this Union Territory but data are not being received.

3. Information also includes data in respect of Special Employment Exchanges for Physically Handicapped.

Outstanding co-operative loans

3221. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the overdues of cooperative loans outstanding against agriculturists State/Union Territory-wise during the last two years; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce overdues, the wilful default and encourage regular recovery and proper utilisation of loans and strengthen the supervisory Staff?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) A Statement showing available information on the overdues of cooperative loans is given below.

(b) The State Governments have been advised from time to time to take steps to reduce the level of overdues and to take coercive measures in case of wilful defaulters. NABARD has also instructed the banks to maintain constant contact with the borrowers, verify the end-use of the credit and to observe seasonality both in lending and recoveries. For strengthening the Supervisory staff of cooperatives, financial assistance is given by NABARD under its 15-Point Programme to selected societies for employment of an Additional Secretary and for imparting training to the staff.

STATEMENT

Statement showing overdue of cooperative loans during 1984-85 and 1985-86

Rs. in lakhs

S. No.	State/UT	1984-85			1985-86		
		Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7577	3289	6583	8878	592	5623
2.	Assam	521	131	116	521	131	174
3.	Bihar	4136	1136	1722	4605	1042	1369
4.	Gujarat	5026	4121	2046	9042	4019	1852
5.	Haryana	8098	1340	927	9096	1354	1870
6.	Himachal Pradesh	251	347	45	264	451	72
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	199	19	64	199	19	82
8.	Karnataka	7330	1854	1832	8990	2274	2108
9.	Kerala	5561	1988	436	6712	2566	752
10.	Madhya Pradesh	10592	3030	1420	13595	2570	1457
11.	Maharashtra	17100	5400	4270	20050	6450	4385
12.	Manipur	272	87	—	272	87	—
13.	Meghalaya	104	23	—	163	10	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Nagaland	—	—	—	118	—	—
15.	Orissa	3791	2524	445	5568	3032	712
16.	Punjab	4428	418	560	10092	151	920
17.	Rajasthan	7241	3358	2062	6915	4265	2728
18.	Tamil Nadu	11181	4564	2649	13817	3165	2499
19.	Tripura	266	65	63	287	52	44
20.	Uttar Pradesh	16612	5877	2793	15359	5248	2711
21.	West Bengal	11334	1558	990	7311	979	1212
22.	A & N Islands	9	5	—	12	12	—
23	Arunachal Pradesh	8	—	—	8	8	—
24.	Chandigarh	2	1	—	8	1	—
25	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	2	—	2	—	—
26.	Delhi	60	14	—	—	—	—
27.	Goa, Daman & Diu	49	26	—	50	34	—
28.	Lakshadweep	2	2	—	2	4	—
29	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—

30	Pondicherry	63	31	7	132	32	6	
		121815	41210	29030	142068	38540	30576	

Delay and cancellation in IA operations

3222. SHRI R.S. MANE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are frequent delays and cancellations of Indian Airlines flights;

(b) details of the improvements made in Indian Airlines operations in the last two years;

(c) whether the major airports are still not in a position to cater to passenger needs and services; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve the administration of the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) During the last 2 years, improvements were made in the following fields:

— Reservations;

— Airport handling;

— Inflight services;

— Dissemination of arrival/departure information; and

— Baggage handling

(c) The major airports have all the essential amenities required for handling of passengers.

(d) A Committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Civil Aviation meets periodically to review arrangements for facilitation of passengers at airports. All major airports also have airport level facilitation Committees which meet periodically. The International Airport Authority of India has also undertaken a number of studies. As a result of these deliberations and studies there is continuous improvement in major airports in the country.

Per capita water availability

3223. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decrease in the per capita availability of drinking water for human consumption;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) the specific steps taken by Union Government for making drinking water easily available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) and (b). The national effort for supplying safe drinking water to the entire population has been expanding steadily especially under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). Safe water is being provided in villages through properly designed schemes which take into account future increases in human population. Rural water supply schemes are designed for supply of water at 40 litres per capita per day for human consumption.

(c) Supply of drinking water is a State subject and State Governments are responsible for planning, formulating and implementing water supply schemes. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Govts. and Union Territories, the Government of India is providing financial assistance under ARWSP and under Scarcity Relief during periods of drought. The Technology Mission on Drinking Water in Villages and Related Water Management is engaged in providing a cost effective and technological thrust to the overall problems of drinking water supply

Shortage of drinking water in Dadra and Nagar Haveli

3224. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of drinking water in most of the villages of Dadra and Nagar Haveli during summer period;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide drinking water to such villages by Union Government;

(c) whether the administration has considered any permanent remedy to this problem; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Shortage of drinking water in a few villages of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is reported during summer season.

(b) Such villages are provided drinking water by tankers by the U.T. Administration.

(c) Central Ground Water Board has conducted a detailed survey and recommended drilling of borewells and construction of dug wells. The U.T. Administration is taking necessary steps for implementing the recommendations of the CGWB.

(d) Does not arise.

Silvassa water supply scheme

3225. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a water supply scheme for Silvassa town in Dadra and Nagar Haveli has been contemplated;

(b) if so, the present stage of this scheme and the estimated cost thereof;

(c) since when this scheme is under preparation; and

(d) the time required to complete and commission this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme, estimated at a cost of Rs. 1.20 crores has been scrutinised by the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation in the Ministry of Urban Development from technical angle and their observations have been communicated to the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Administration for furnishing clarifications on certain technical aspects. A reply from the Administration is awaited.

(c) and (d). It has been reported by the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Administration that the scheme is under preparation since 1983. About 2 years will be required to complete and commission the project from the date of its administrative approval by the Ministry of Urban Development.

Financial relief to corporations

3226. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals submitted by the All India Mayors' Conference to Union Government for financial relief to the city Corporations; and

(b) the reactions of Government to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No proposals for financial relief to city Corporations have been received from the All India Mayors' Conference.

(b) Does not arise.

Damage to Air India boeing by rats

3227. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air India Boeing 747 which had been kept as a "stand-by" for the Prime Minister during his visit to Moscow recently had to be grounded as some of its cables were eaten by rats;

(b) whether any inquiry, to fix the responsibility for negligence in the maintenance of the aircraft has been constituted;

(c) if so, the result of the inquiry; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to avoid similar incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir.

One Boeing 747 aircraft was kept as stand-by for the VVIP flight. After the aircraft was released from standby status to operate as a regular flight, it was found that certain wires were damaged by rodents which entered the aircraft during the 4 days when it was isolated as a stand-by.

Investigations have revealed that rodents can enter aircrafts through food carts/cargo containers/step ladders, etc. and there is no foolproof system to completely eliminate their entry. As a precautionary measure Air India fumigates all aircraft used in scheduled flights, but in view of the incident it has been decided to fumigate standby aircraft as well. Experts are being consulted in the field of pest control to advise on more effective measures to prevent such incidents.

Ban on broadcasting of songs of film 'Kalyug aur Ramayan'

3228. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Radio have put a ban on broadcast of three songs from the film 'Kalyug Aur Ramayan'; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The three songs from the film 'Kalyug Aur Ramayan' submitted to All India Radio as 'Kalyug Ki Ramayan' were not approved for broadcast by the Screening Committee as the songs contravened the AIR code.

[*Translation*]

Grants to Agricultural Universities

3229. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research for giving grants for opening agricultural colleges to various States;

(b) whether any change in policy is envisaged, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the grant paid to agricultural colleges and Universities since 1986, year and university-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of agriculture scientists in the country and if so, the grounds on which Indian Council of Agricultural Research refuses grant to States for opening new agricultural universities and colleges;

(e) whether ICAR propose to enhance the grants, if so, the details thereof, university-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The criteria followed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research for giving grants to State Agriculture Universities for opening agricultural colleges are:

(i) the proposal is received from State Agricultural Universities giving full justification for starting Agricultural Colleges including manpower requirement of agricultural graduates in the concerned States;

(ii) the concurrence of the State Govt. to start the Colleges;

(iii) assurance from the State Agricultural Universities/State Govt. to provide adequate support to the new college for creating infrastructural facilities for effective functioning of the College.

The proposal from the State Agricultural University is examined by an Expert Team and the report of the team is considered by the Norms and Accreditation Committee of the Council for granting appropriate funds under a Plan Scheme "Establishment and Development of Agricultural Universities" for development of the College.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Council gives grants only to State Agricultural Universities and not to individual colleges. The grants paid to State Agricultural Universities since 1986 are given in the Statement below.

(d) In general, there is no shortage of agricultural scientists (agricultural graduates) in the country.

(e) and (f). No, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research gives grants to State Agricultural Universities under a plan Scheme, viz. "Establishment & Development of Agricultural Universities". The total outlay of Rs. 36.60 crores of this scheme has been allocated to various State Agricultural Universities, according to the priorities identified by them, as per the Statement enclosed (Annexure).

STATEMENT

VII Plan allocation to state agricultural universities and amount released since 1985-86

Sl. No.	University	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)			
		VII Plan Allocation	1985-86	1986-87	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Hyderabad.	174.50	67.00	18.00	85.00
2.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat.	183 30	47.50	—	47.50
3.	Rejendra Agricultural University, Pusa.	148.00	30.00	35.50	65 50
4	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi	113.00	—	70 00	70.00
5.	Gujarat Agricultural University, Dantiwada.	175 54	15.00	92.54	107.54
6.	Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar.	185.00	51.03	68.66	119.69
7.	Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Palampur.	124.60	54.80	30.00	84.80
8.	Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan	124.60	—	92.50	92.50
9.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore.	118.00	48.00	17.25	65.25
10.	University of Agricultural Science, Dharwad.	120.00	—	55.03	55.03

11.	Kerala Agricultural University, Mannuthy.	183.00	42.73	56.27	99.00
12.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidayalaya, Jabalpur.	173.40	20.00	40.00	60.00
13.	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalaya, Raipur.	"	—	—	—
14.	Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli.	100.00	33.50	18.29	51.79
15.	Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri.	100.00	14.00	38.72	52.72
16.	Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani.	100.00	30.00	36.50	66.50
17.	Punjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola	100.00	36.00	15.00	51.00
18.	Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneshwar.	173.00	44.00	58.00	102.00
19.	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.	183.00	62.80	40.60	103.40
20.	Sukhadia University, Udaipur.	169.00	—	—	—
21.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore.	183.00	44.50	49.07	93.57
22.	Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur.	125.34	35.00	32.34	67.34
23.	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar.	124.41	37.00	43.--	80.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Narendra Dev. University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad.	125 54	40 00	34 07	74.07
25.	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia.	179 77	37 00	41.53	78.53
26.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Srinagar.	173 40	45.00	57.00	102.00
	Total:	3660.00	834 86	1039.87	1874.73

[English]

Finalisation of N.C.R. Plan

3230. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the N.C.R. Plan has since been approved and finalised by Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a copy of the draft plan will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Allocation of fertilizers to Maharashtra

3231. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government faced difficulty in meeting the full requirement of fertilizers in various States during the last two years; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the allocation of fertilizers made to Maharashtra during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir. The Union Government had no difficulty in meeting the full requirement of fertilisers in various States during the last two years i.e. 1985-86 and 1986-87.

(b) The requirements of fertilizers are assessed in terms of nutrients in consultation with the State Government and the assessed requirement is allocated in full from various suppliers. During the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 the requirement of fertilizers of Maharashtra State was assessed as follows:

Year	Assessed requirement ('000 tonnes N+P+K)
1985-86	825.00
1986-87	836.84

Expansion of special livestock production programme

3232. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
DR. V. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to expand the activities under the Special Livestock Production programme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the scheme is intended to provide employment to small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. Special Livestock Production Programme (SLPP), now known as Special Livestock Breeding Programme (SLBP), is proposed to be strengthened to provide for farmers' training and registration of superior calves. It is also proposed to introduce rearing of female buffalo and male cross-breed calves in selected areas on pilot basis and to allow

beneficiaries to opt for poultry broilers, duckery, goat and rabbit breeding.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In case of rearing of calves, subsidy is provided at the rate of 50% to small and marginal farmers and 66-2/3% to agricultural labourers. Subsidy is provided at the rate of 25% to small farmers and 331/3% to marginal farmers and agricultural labourers for setting up of animal/bird units. In all cases, subsidy is subject to a maximum of Rs. 3,000/- per beneficiary. In the case of tribal participant, the rate of subsidy is 50% subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000/-. Thirty per cent of the beneficiaries selected under the programme are to be from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Advisory committee on International Airports

3233. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an advisory committee has been constituted to advise International Airports Authority of India on facilitation, maintenance and other services to be provided at International Airports to bring them at par with airports in other countries;

(b) if so, the criteria for selection of the members of this committee;

(c) the terms and conditions for the appointment of the members of the Committee; and

(d) the improvements expected to be brought about?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Members have been selected on the basis of their expertise in various fields relevant to efficient management of International airports.

(c) The Members serve the Committee in an honorary capacity and as such no specific terms and conditions have been laid down for their appointment.

(d) The Advisory Committee will advise I.A.A.I. on facilitation, maintenance and other services to be provided at International Airports to make them at par with the best airports in the world

Production of Fertilizers

3234. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the average production of fertilizers in Indian fertilizer plants is low compared to those in the rest of the world,

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to know the causes, and

(c) if so, the details and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R PRABHU): (a) The average production, measured in terms of capacity utilisation, for 1986-87 was 79.3% for the fertilizer industry, as a whole, in the country. Barring the Units of Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC), which registered a capacity utilisation of 44.9%, the performance of the other plants was quite comparable to that of the plants abroad.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Financial relief for domestic fertilizers units

3235. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRIMATI BSAVARAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to provide substantial financial relief for the domestic fertilizer units in the country to beat the current recessionary conditions;

(b) the main features of the proposed rescue plan; and

(c) if so, by what time the same is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) to (c). Due to unfavourable weather conditions during the last three years, the fertilizer consumption has been below the targetted levels. Therefore, the stocks of indigenous fertilizers have gone up. The fertilizer industry has sought relief by way of compensation for higher inventory carrying costs. The proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

Assistance to small and marginal farmers to increase agricultural production

3236. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by Union Government, State-wise, during 1985-86 under the special scheme for assisting small and marginal farmers for increasing their agricultural production; and

(b) whether an assessment has been made in regard to the targets achieved, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) State/Union Territory-wise Central share released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Samll and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production during 1985-86 is indicated in the Statement below.

(b) The reports received so far from the State Governments reveals that a total number of 39.29 lakh seed minikits of oil-seeds, pulses and coarse-grains as against the target of 20.18 lakh have been distributed to the small and marginal farmers under the scheme during 1985-86. Under minor irrigation component 1.72 lakh wells/ tubewells have been dug/installed and 1.42 lakh pumpsets/diesel engines/electric motors installed by the small and marginal farmers. Under land development component an area of about 0.61 lakh hectares has been covered.

STATEMENT

State-wise release of Central share under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small & Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production during 1985-86.

(Rs. in lakhs)

	States/UTs	Central Share released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	465.95

	States/UTs	Central share released
2.	Assam	92 46
3.	Bihar	405.03
4.	Gujarat	367.06
5.	Haryana	128 34
6.	Himachal Pradesh	95 22
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	51 75
8.	Karnataka	120 75
9.	Kerala	312 57
10	Madhya Pradesh	773 17
11	Maharashtra	740 00
12.	Manipur	35 88
13.	Meghalaya	16 56
14	Nagaland	28 98
15.	Orissa	492 42
16.	Punjab	162 84
17.	Rajasthan	325 68
18.	Sikkim	10 00
19.	Tamil Nadu	709 64
20	Tripura	21 50
22.	West Bengal	462 30
23.	A & N Islands	6 90
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	132 48
25.	Chandigarh	1 38
26.	D & N Haveli	1 38
27.	Delhi	6 90
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	33 12
29.	Lakshadweep	6 90

	States/UTs	Central share released
30.	Mizoram	55.20
31.	Pondicherry	5.52
	All India	7479.60

Improvement in digestibility & nutritional value of cattle-feed

3237. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Dairy Corporation has developed a new process called "Urea Molasses Lick" to improve the digestibility and nutritional value of cattle-feed;

(b) if so, the salient features of the process and the economics related to reduction in cost of milk production;

(c) the number of dairy co-operatives in which the process is proposed to be put into practice; and

(d) the steps that are being taken for introduction of this new process in all the dairy co-operatives of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has developed a new feed supplement called Urea Molasses block using Urea, Molasses, Minerals and small quantity of protein. The product has been patented in India.

(b) The process of manufacture involved mixing of ingredients with Molasses and heating the mixture under controlled condition till the viscocity of the mixture reaches the desired level. The processed material is then discharged into special moulds and colled. The material cools into hard solid blocks.

Reduction in concentrate requirement and increased nutrient availability and utilisation of all crop residues results in approximately 20% cost reduction in Milk production. Degree of cost reduction varies with regions and feeding practices.

(c) Using the process of Urea Molasses block developed by NDDB, 4 Dairy Cooperative Unions/federations have established the Commercial plants. These are situated in Anand and Mehsana in Gujarat, Bangalore in Karnataka and Bhattian in Punjab. It has not been possible to actively promote the use of Urea Molasses lick due to the inadequate availability of Molasses to the feed Plants.

(d) Indian Dairy Corporation is planning to set up 21 more plants in different milksheds.

Annual capacity of proposed gas-based Fertilizer Plants

3238. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) the annual production capacity of the proposed gas-based fertiliser plants in the country; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b). The annual production capacity of the six gas-based fertilizer plants being put up/proposed to be put up is indicated below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the gas-based fertilizer project	Annual Production capacity (in terms of Nitrogen-in lakh tonnes)
1.	Vijaipur	3 34
2.	Aonla	3 34
3	Jagdishpur	3 34
4	Sawai Madhopur	3 42
5	Babrala	3 42
6.	Shahjahanpur	3 42

[*Translation*]

Telecast of Reliance World Cup Cricket Tournament

3239. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of preparations made by Doordarshan to telecast Reliance World Cup Cricket Tournament;

(b) the progress made in regard to the selection of Radio commentators for this purpose; and

(c) the details of decision taken in regard to telecast of tournament matches and commentary thereon in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Doordarshan propose to take the following special measures to ensure that the coverage of World Cup Cricket 1987 conforms to International standards·

(i) Upgradation of the equipment of the existing four colour OB vans;

(ii) Procurement of additional six colour OB vans;

(iii) Computerisation of display of scores, statistics, etc.

(iv) Training of the staff to be deputed for coverage of the event.

(v) Screening of Commentators and experts involved in covering the event; and

(vi) Deputing a team of experts to examine camera positions at various stadia so that a uniform level of production is achieved.

(b) The list of Radio Commentators is yet to be finalised.

(c) It has been decided to provide live telecast, commentary and other facilities, to the extent possible, to the foreign TV organisations as and when they ask for it. The tariff for the technical facilities has been intimated to foreign TV organisations.

[*English*]

Facilities to passengers by A.I.

3240. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether frequent travellers of Air India will be provided special facilities;

(b) if so, whether the details of the facilities that will be provided have been worked out; and

(c) if so, the details of the same and the time by which these facilities will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTERS OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Air India already provides special handling facilities to first and business class passengers. In addition, frequent travellers are provided with the following facilities:—

(1) Economy Class passengers, who are frequent travellers are allowed to check in at Executive Class Counters.

(2) Use of Air India lounges or lounges of other carriers which Air India shares at major international airports.

(3) Assistance on arrival at destination by the airport staff.

Cheating of job seekers

3241. DR. G.S. RAJHANS:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of manpower exporting companies are cheating the job seekers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of such unscrupulous companies noticed by Government during the last three years and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir. However, there have been complaints against some Recruiting Agencies.

(b) Registration Certificates of 9 Agencies have been cancelled and suspended in respect of 25 as per Statement given below:—

STATEMENT

List of Registration Certificates Cancelled.

1. M/s. Manpower Management Associates, Madras.
2. M/s. Sharda Travels, New Delhi.
3. M/s. U.K. Marine International, Hyderabad.
4. M/s. Nishath International, Hyderabad.
5. M/s. S.R.S. Enterprises, New Delhi.
6. M/s. Blue Nile Travel & Tours (P) Ltd., Bombay.
7. M/s. Al-Adnan, New Delhi.
8. M/s. Shad India Agencies, New Delhi.
9. M/s. World Trade Travel Associates, Bombay.

List of Registration Certificates Suspended.

S. No.	Name and address of the firm
1.	M/s. Gupta Travels, Bombay.

1	2
2	M/s Overseas Engg Construction Co New Delhi
3	M/s Paramount Corporation Bombay
4	M/s Foreign Linkers (Personnel) New Delhi
5	M/s Anand Enterprises New Delhi
6	M/s American Exports, Trivandrum
7	M/s K K Enterprises, New Delhi
8	M/s Ekjot International, Ludhiana
9	M/s J K Enterprises Ludhiana
10	M/s Selective Powers (P) Ltd New Delhi
11	M/s Chowdhary World Tour & Trade Bombay
12	M/s Ansar Travels Calicut
13	M/s Viswak Agencies New Delhi
14	M/s Swastik International Bombay
15	M/s Inter Link Construction New Delhi
16	M/s Scanners International Madras
17	M/s Joseph International New Delhi
18	M s Roomi Travels Hyderabad
19	M/s Al Arabia Travel Agency Bombay
20	M/s Continental Engineers Chandigarh
21	M/s Seven Stars International Bombay
22	M/s Nasir Trade International, Bombay
23	M/s Energy India New Delhi
24	M/s Kukda Consultants Bombay
25	M/s Jas Enterprises, Madras

Allotment of land to landless

3242 SHRI SITARAM J GAVALI Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the total number of landless persons as identified by the Administration up to June, 1987 in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli·

(b) the total area of land as acquired for its distribution to such landless persons by the Administration upto June, 1987,

(c) the total number of landless persons who have been allotted the land by the administration and also the total number of beneficiary landless persons who have been given the actual possession of allotted lands upto June, 1987; and

(d) the total area of land as allotted and total area as actually handed over by the administration to the landless persons upto June, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) 2413 persons.

(b) 3046 hectares land taken possession under Land Reforms Regulation.

(c) Out of 2882 persons who have been allotted land, possession has been handed over to 2204 landless persons.

(d) Out of 1997 hectares land allotted, possession has been handed over in respect of 1931 hectares.

Setting up of TV relay centre at Dadra and Nagar Haveli

3243. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a TV relay centre at Dadra and Nagar Haveli;

(b) if so, the time by which it will be set up; and

(c) the criteria of sanctioning TV relay centre for backward area having population of above one lakh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) (a) Yes, Sir. The VII Plan of Doordarshan includes a scheme for setting up of a 2x10 W TV transmitter at Silvassa in the Union Territory.

(b) The implementation of this scheme is dependent on the annual allocation of plan resources and the time needed by the indigenous manufacturers to supply the required transmitter equipment.

(c) The criteria for selecting locations for TV centres in such areas depends upon availability of TV coverage from transmitters in the adjoining areas, availability of financial resources and such other factors.

Taking over function of Lab to Land Programme

3244. DR. G.V. RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Lab to Land Transfer of Technology Programme launched earlier is now being handled by Krishi Vigyan Kendra; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir. The Lab to Land Transfer of Technology Programme is being implemented through State Agricultural Universities, ICAR Research Institutes and selected Voluntary Organization. Krishi Vigyan Kendras wherever located in these institutions have been handling Lab to Land Programme since their inception in 1979.

(b) The question does not arise.

Conversion of Bangalore Airport into International Airport

3245. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert Bangalore Airport into an International Airport;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the purpose;

(c) whether the above proposal is to be implemented during the Seventh Plan; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Setting up and expansion of TV centres in Karnataka during 1987-88

3246. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up some new Television Centres in Karnataka during 1987-88;

(b) whether Government also propose to expand some existing TV centres in that State;

(c) if so, the place selected for the location of new TV centres in Karnataka in 1987-88; and

(d) the steps taken for the establishment of new TV centres, and expansion of existing TV centres in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A full fledged, professional grade TV Studio Centre at Bangalore in replacement of the existing interim set up and a 100 W TV transmitter at Chickmagalur are expected to be commissioned into service during 1987-88.

(d) Establishment of two 10 KW and three 100 W TV transmitters (excluding a 100 W TV transmitter at Chickmagalur expected to be commissioned, into service during 1987-88) and Programme Generation Facilities Centre at Gulbarga is provided to be taken up during the remainder of the VII Plan Period. Orders for supply of major equipment required for the two 10 KW transmitters and Programme Generation Facilities Centre have been placed The sites for location of these Centres have also been finalised.

[*Translation*]

Non-implementation of ESI scheme in Naraina Industrial Area, Delhi

3247. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether ESI scheme has not been implemented by exporters, fabricators and factory owners in Naraina industrial area, Delhi who consume power and have engaged more than 20 employees; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to get the scheme implemented in the Naraina industrial area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A SANGMA): (a) and (b). The ESI Scheme is already being implemented in Naraina industrial area in Delhi. At present, 613 factories including units engaged in fabrication/export of garments located in this area are covered under the Scheme. The responsibility for getting the factory/establishment registered under the scheme is that of the employer. However, the ESI authorities also carry out periodical surveys and register all coverable factories/establishments under the scheme.

Allotment of DDA Flats

3248. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses/flats allotted to the people of different sections by DDA during last year and upto June this year;

(b) the number of allottees of Janata flats who deposited the initial amount in time;

(c) the number of allottees who demanded extension of time to deposit the entire amount;

(d) the number of allottees who got the extension of time; and

(e) the number of allottees who had to miss the houses for not getting the extension of time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Reservation of seats in AI/IA flights

3249. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lufthansa airlines have reserved 70 per cent seats for non-smokers in the class particularly meant for tourists and businessmen; and

(b) if so, whether similar arrangements will also be made in Air-India and Indian Airlines from the security point of view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As per the information received from Lufthansa, the number of non-smokers seats on their aircraft range between 64 to 77%, depending on the type of the aircraft.

(b) Varying percentage of seats for non-smokers have already been reserved in aircraft of Air India and Indian Airlines.

HUDCO loan to Bihar housing board

3250. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money provided by HUDCO to the Bihar Housing Board so far; and

(b) the number of Housing Projects for which this amount has been provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). As on 31-7-87 HUDCO has sanctioned 41 housing schemes of Bihar Housing Board with project cost of Rs. 43.03 crores and HUDCO's loan commitment of Rs. 32.72 crores.

[*English*]

News-item captioned 'Pesticides poisoning in Punjab'

3251. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Union Governemnt has been drawn to a press news item captioned "Pesticide poisoning in Punjab" as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated 22 July, 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to highly toxic pesticide a large number of deaths have taken place during the last one year in different parts of the country;

(c) the loss to crops due to pesticides; and

(d) the details of such highly toxic pesticides and steps being taken by Govern-

ment to discontinue the use of such pesticides in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only the Cane Department of the Government of Punjab has reported four deaths during 1986-87 and one death, so far, during 1987-88 from Dhuri and Nava Shahar sugar mill areas due to use of Phorate/Carbofuran. Both the said insecticides fall under the category of extremely toxic pesticides.

(c) No loss of crops has been reported due to pesticides.

(d) Since Phorate and Carbofuran are extremely toxic insecticides, Government have taken following steps for their safe handling:—

(i) The Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, has registered only encapsulated granular formulations of Carbofuran and Phorate from the point of view of safety to users.

(ii) Labels and leaflets on the containers of insecticides is a mandatory requirement under the Insecticides Act and the rules framed there under which inter-alia contains various instructions on safety precautions for the benefit of farmers. These labels and leaflets are printed in three language viz. Hindi, English and one of the regional languages for the benefit of extension functionaries as well as farmers to enable them to follow the required safety precautions in handling the insecticides.

(iii) A coloured triangle is also incorporated on the labels and leaflets to categories the category of toxicity of each insecticide. This helps the extension functionaries in imparting proper training to un-educated farmers on safe use of pesticides.

(iv) The Extension functionaries of the State Governments as well as Associations of the Pesticide Industry organise training programme on safe use of pesticide for the benefit of farmers and pesticide distributors.

All the registered pesticides, even those falling under the category of "highly toxic pesticides" do not pose any risk to human health if they are used as per perscribed directions and with proper safety methods. Therefore, the Government has not contemplated the discontinuance of use of such pesticides.

Setting up TV centres in Orissa during 1987-88

3252. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the location of Television centres going to be established in Orissa during 1987-88; and

(b) whether a TV centre at Bhanjanagar will also be set up during 1987-88 in view of availability of rent free building?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) In the State of Orissa, a 100 W TV transmitter each at Jeypore, Sundergarh and Baripada is expected to be installed and commissioned into service during 1987-88, as per the present indications.

(b) No, Sir. Installation and commissioning of the proposed 100 WTV transmitter for Bhanjanagar is dependent on the annual allocation of plan resources and availability of transmitter equipment.

Construction of rural godowns

3254. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended the scheme for the construction of rural godowns of 200 tonnes to 1000 tonnes in all the States;

(b) whether the scheme is being monitored and working satisfactorily; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) The scheme for setting up of rural godowns implemented by the Department of Rural Development is applicable to all the States since its inception in 1979-80.

(b) and (c). The progress of the scheme is being monitored. As per information received from the State Governments, rural godowns are being utilised by the farmers. However, the utilisation of the godowns by a large number of farmers is hampered by their compulsion to sell their marketable surplus immediately after harvest. The State Governments have been requested to undertake extension efforts to pursuade and motivate the farmers to avail of the facility of rural godowns. The State Directors of Agriculture have also been requested to use the training and visit system to popularise the scheme amongst the farmers.

Damage to Crops due to Rain and Hailstorms

3255. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the damages caused to agricultural crops due to rains and hailstorms since 1985, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the value and quantum of crops so damaged;

(c) the assistance given to the concerned States by Union Government; and

(d) the compensation and facilities provided to the affected farmers by State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House on receipt.

Study conducted by ORG regarding Advertising Trends

3256. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the findings of the Operations Research Group pertaining to the advertising trends in the country including T.V. advertisements:

(b) whether Doordarshan increased its advertisement tariff by 100 per cent in March, 1987;

(c) the impact it had on the Doordarshan's revenue; and

(d) other salient points revealed by the ORG study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Government have seen the summary of the findings of the Operations Research Group as appeared in the newspapers.

(b) No, Sir. The maximum increase in

the advertisement tariff revised with effect from 1st March, 1987 is 75%.

(c) The revised rates have resulted in higher revenues. The average increase of revenue for the period from March to June, 1987 is 43 per cent as compared to the corresponding period in the previous year.

(d) The study, as per the Press report, has revealed that T.V. advertisement has not affected Press advertisement revenue.

The study also says that the revenue of II Channel of Doordarshan has gone down. However, this is not correct.

Expansion of Cochin Airport

3257. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for expansion of the Cochin Airport;

(b) if so, details of the programme for expansion; and

(c) when the construction is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details are yet to be worked out.

Green revolution

3258. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware of any recent studies in India and abroad about the impact of Green Revolution on the quality of land and the deterioration of soil due to high doses of fertilisers and high level of irrigation;

(b) whether the high yielding seeds have also been found to be highly susceptible to various pests;

(c) whether a three year life span is all that these varieties have got resulting in high costs of change over to new varieties every three years; and

(d) whether Government propose to undertake a factual cost benefit analysis of the Green Revolution in selected districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) There is no knowledge at hand about the studies conducted abroad on the impact of green revolution on quality of land. However, preliminary studies conducted in India on the long-term fertilizer use indicate that there is no deterioration in quality of land due to adoption of recommended rates of fertilizer application. On the other hand, use of high level or irrigation without adequate provision of drainage leads to water logging and secondary salinization.

(b) No, Sir. High yielding varieties are bred for resistance to specific races/biotypes of diseases and insect pests. However, the resistance may break down due to the evolution of new races/biotypes of diseases and insect pests during commercial cultivation.

(c) No, Sir. In fact, the potential life span of the varieties varies from 6 to 10 years, depending upon the breeding behaviour of the varieties/hybrids, agro-climatic conditions in which they are grown and the prevalence of new races/biotypes of the diseases and insect pests.

(d) At present there is no such proposal

Soyabean production

3259. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that due to excess of soyabean output, the soyabean prices are depressed and there is a glut of soya products in the market; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has ever made an evaluation of the cost-benefits of Soya Cultivation; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). Prices of soyabean have shown an increase during the past three years even though the production has gone up. There is no evidence of a glut of soya products in the market.

[*Translation*]

Scarcity conditions in Rajasthan

3260. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN
SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan have submitted a memorandum to Union Government seeking more financial assistance to meet the drought condition in the State; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the assistance sought and proposed to be provided to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Yes. Sir Central assistance of Rs. 306.89 crores has been sought. A Central team will be sent to make an assessment.

Coverage of tribal population by Doordarshan

3261. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of tribal population likely to be covered by Doordarshan by the year 1990;

(b) whether there is a proposal to cover all those districts by Doordarshan facilities during this Plan period where percentage of tribals in a particular sub-division is more than 20 per cent of the total population there;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if so, whether Dharchula and Munsyari sub-divisions in Uttar Pradesh will also be benefited by this programme; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) With the implementation of Seventh Plan Schemes, TV service is expected to be available to about 82.8% population of the country, covering a large population in rural, tribal and backward areas. All tribal districts of the country are also expected to be covered, either wholly or partially.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). No. Sir. TV service in the country is being expanded in a phased manner. Extention of TV service to the remaining uncovered parts of the country would depend upon availability of resources in future Plans of TV expansion.

Provision of drinking water to villages of U.P.

3262. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of scarcity villages in Uttar Pradesh, where drinking water has

been made available during 1986-87 and the additional number of villages proposed to be provided with drinking water facility during 1987-88;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the average number of drinking water scarcity villages in some districts of this State is more than that of the other districts; and

(c) if so, the special steps Union Government would recommend to the concerned State Government for making special arrangements for these particular districts with a view to solve the drinking water problem and the details of the assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) 11997 problem villages were provided with safe drinking water facilities in Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87. During 1987-88 it is proposed to cover 9700 problem villages.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Supply of drinking water being a State subject, State Governments are responsible for planning, formulating and implementing all rural water supply schemes under the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Union Government supplements the efforts of the States Government by providing financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The selection and prioritization of districts for implementation of rural water supply schemes is the function of the State Government concerned. A sum of Rs. 23.62 crores has been released to Uttar Pradesh as first instalment of financial assistance under ARWSP for 1987-88.

Doordarshan Kendra in Almora

3263. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan Kendra in Almora has started functioning; and

(b) the time by which the proposed Doordarshan Kendra in Ranikhet will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No, Sir. However, the proposed 2x10 W TV transmitter at Almora is expected to be commissioned into service during the current financial year itself

(b) The installation and commissioning of the proposed TV transmitter at Ranikhet (as also at some other places in the country) is dependent on the annual allocation of plan resources, time needed by the indigenous manufacturers to supply the required equipment and overall priorities.

Telecast of wrong news

3264. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a factual error in the information on certain facts given during the telecast of the evening bulletin on Doordarshan on 27 July, 1987; and

(b) if so, how many times such mistakes have taken place in the past and the action taken or proposed to be taken against the person responsible for committing such mistakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. In the National News bulletin in Hindi telecast on 27.7.87, the name of the Railway station where a rail accident had occurred was mentioned as 'Chapda' instead of 'Chatra'.

(b) While it is the endeavour of Doordar-

shan to telecast news which is factual, accurate and objective, there have been some instances of viewers' complaining against factual inaccuracies. The complaints are looked into promptly and corrective action taken.

Setting up TV relay centres in tribal areas

3265. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether priority has been given to set up TV relay centres in tribal areas to make them aware about developmental activities in the country and to bring them in national main stream and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the time by which a TV relay centre is likely to be sanctioned for Songarh, Surat district of Gujarat keeping in view its demand there; and

(c) the time by which this TV relay centre is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. With the implementation of Seventh Plan Schemes, all the tribal districts of the country are expected to be covered by TV service, either wholly or partially.

(b) and (c). A 100 W TV transmitter has been functioning at Surat since July, 1984. Provision of TV service to the remaining uncovered parts of Surat district including Songarh would depend upon availability of resources in the future Plans of TV expansion.

Air service between Delhi-Surat

3266. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great demand of the people of Gujarat for the introduction of a direct flight from Delhi to Surat and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the time by which this service is likely to be introduced and the details of concrete steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Visitors lounge at Mangalore Airport

3267. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no visitors lounge at Mangalore Airport;

(b) whether Government propose to construct a visitors lounge for the facility of the passengers;

(c) the likely date by which the lounge would be ready; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The lounge is expected to be ready during the Seventh Plan Period.

(d) Does not arise.

I.A. Booking Offices at Bangalore

3268. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) places where the Indian Airlines Offices are located for booking tickets, cancellations etc. in Bangalore city; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take steps to open Indian Airlines Offices in Jayanagar, Malleswaram and Cantonment area to help the travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Indian Airlines' main Booking Office is at Kempa Godwa Road, Bangalore and the booking office at the Airport, undertake issuance of tickets, reservations, cancellations and refund.

(b) Indian Airlines will consider the feasibility of opening booking offices at Jayanagar, Malleswaram and Cantonment area depending upon the requirement and the availability of suitable places at these locations.

Development of Mysore Airport

3269. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken up the development of Airport at Mysore; and

(b) if not, whether it is proposed to improve the runway and construct a new airport building with modern facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal, at present.

Runway at Bajpe Airport, Mangalore

3270. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) when the second runway at Bajpe Airport, Mangalore will be completed;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for the above project;

(c) the amount to be spent on this project during 1987-88; and

(d) whether the Airbuses would be able to land at Bajpe Airport, Mangalore.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). Subject to the availability of funds, it is proposed to construct a second runway suitable for A-300 type of aircraft, at Bajpe (Mangalore) airport. The proposal is at the initial state of surveying of site etc. A provision of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been made in the Annual Plan, 1987-88 of the National Airports Authority for taking up the preliminary work of site survey; preparation of design and formulation of project report etc.

Resettlement and unauthorised colonies in Delhi

3271. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the population in Delhi as on March, 1981 and as on 31 July, 1987;

(b) the number out of them living in jhuggies, slums, resettlement colonies, unauthorised colonies and other clustered areas;

(c) the number who have potable water and under-ground sewage facilities; and

(d) Government's policy regarding the old and up-coming new unauthorised colonies and other clustered areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The population of Delhi Union Territory as on 1.3.81

was 62,20,406. The population of Delhi UT as on 31.7.87 is not available. However, the projected population of Union Territory as on 1.3.87 is 79,35,000. This is the estimate made by Expert Committee on population projections.

(b) About 1 million in jhuggi cluster; 1.8 million in slum areas; 1.2 million in resettlement colonies; 1.2 million in unauthorised colonies; 0.5 million in urban villages and 0.5 million in rural villages.

(c) About 94% of the population of Delhi at present has potable water supply. About 75% of the population is covered with sewerage facility.

(d) Only such unauthorised colonies which were in existence upto 30.6.1977 are being regularised.

Financial crisis in Vayudoot

3272. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware of the fact that the Vayudoot service is heading for a financial crisis; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to improve the Vayudoot service to make it more operational and profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) It will not be correct to say that Vayudoot is heading for a financial crisis.

(b) In view of the above, the question does not arise.

Floor space ratio for all urban areas

3273. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether floor space ratio for all urban areas is to be raised to provide additional covered accommodation;

(b) if so, the criteria in this regard; and

(c) whether existing buildings would be allowed to be expanded to conform to the new floor space ratio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Planning authorities in each State in consultation with the State Governments specify the Floor Area Ratio applicable in urban areas from time to time. Directives in this regard are not issued by the Central Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Modernisation of Calcutta airport

3274. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that once Calcutta Airport was used by 19 airlines and these used to be a landing or a take off every four minutes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Calcutta's growth in International passenger traffic last year has been the highest in the country;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to modernise Calcutta Airport; and

(d) the inducements given to foreign airlines to come to Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As per available information 9 Airlines operated through Calcutta Airport in 1972-73.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Calcutta Airport is fully equipped for handling international traffic like the three

other international airports. It has also been decided to construct a new International Terminal Complex at Calcutta Airport.

(d) As a broad policy for promoting international operations to Calcutta, compensation payable to Air India consequent on unilateral operations by foreign airlines to Calcutta is generally proposed on the lower side as compared to other international airports in the country.

Capacity utilisation in HFC and FCI

3275. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the 'percentage capacity utilisation' of each unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation and Fertilizer Corporation of India in 1986-87 and by how much the total production would have been up had there been full capacity utilisation; and

(b) the steps being taken during the past three years for better capacity utilisation and their outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The installed capacity, the actual production and the capacity utilisation of each of the units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) in 1986-87 are given below:—

Name of the Plant	Installed capacity Nitrogen per year (000 MT)	1986-87	
		Actual Production (000 MT)	Capacity utilisation %
I. *Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation*			
1. Namrup-I	45	8 8	19.6
2. Namrup-II	152	86.9	57.2
3 Durgapur	152	50 8	33.4
4. Barauni	152	61.6	40.5
Total	501	208.1	41 5
II. *Fertilizer Corporation of India*			
1. Sindri Modernisation	219	135.3	61 8
2 Gorakhpur	131	84.1	64.2
3. Ramagundam	228	113.2	49.6
4. Talcher	228	58.8	25.8
Total	806	391.4	48 6

Total production would have been 1307000 tonnes of nitrogen, if all the units had operated at 100% capacity utilisation.

(b) During the last three years, while captive power plants have been commissioned in Namrup and Durgapur units of

HFC and Talcher unit of FCI: one is under installation at Barauni unit of HFC.

Several short-term measures have been implemented at Ramagundam and Talcher units of FCI. Essential repairs and replacement of vital equipments have been undertaken, as required. Other steps being planned are the revamping of the units of HFC, rehabilitation of Ramagundam unit and revamping of Gorakhpuri unit of FCI.

The steps aleady taken have improved the capacity utilisation of FCI plants and have helped in maintaining a steady level of capacity utilisation of HFC plants.

Allotment of foodgrains under NREP

3276. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started a scheme to provide foodgrains under the National Rural Employment Programme and particularly in the drought affected areas;

(b) the names of those States which are facing drought problem and the quantity of foodgrains supplied to each of the affected States during the year 1986 and during the first six months of the current year;

(c) whether it is a fact that the foodgrains supplied to the State are not sufficient to meet the demand;

(d) whether some State Governments have requested to increase the supply of foodgrains to meet the demand; and

(e) if so, the details of demands sent by the State Governments and the action taken by Government to increase the supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) is a regular employment programme and not a relief programme. The programme guidelines provide for 50% of wages being paid to the workers in foodgrains in all the States/UTs. Foodgrains under the programme continue to be provided as in the past.

(b) Names of the States/UTs which have reported drought conditions during the post-monsoon period of 1986-87 and during current monsoon period are shown in Statement-I below. The quantities of foodgrains released to these states during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 under NREP/RLEGP and the scarcity Relief are indicated in Statement-II below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Requests for additional foodgrains under NREP have been received from the State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tripura and Rajasthan as under:—

State	Quantity (MTs.)
Gujarat	50000.00
Madhya Pradesh	25000.00
Orissa	7844.00
Rajasthan	25000.00
Tripura	1571.00

Decision has been taken to make advance release of 2nd instalment of foodgrains to all the States affected by drought.

STATEMENT-I

Drought condition during the post-monsoon period 1986-87 and during current monsoon period

	1986-87 (Post-Monsoon)	1987 (Current Monsoon)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Gujarat
2.	Assam	Haryana
3.	Gujarat	Kerala
4.	Haryana	Karnataka
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Maharashtra
6.	Karnataka	Madhya Pradesh
7.	Kerala	Orissa
8.	Manipur	Rajasthan
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Sikkim
10.	Maharashtra	Tamil Nadu
11.	Orissa	Uttar Pradesh
12.	Pondicherry	Delhi
13.	Rajasthan	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
14.	Tamil Nadu	Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
15.	Tripura	Pondicherry
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Nagaland
17.	Delhi	
18.	Goa	
19.	Meghalaya	
20.	Nagaland	

STATEMENT-II

Quantities of foodgrains released to the States during the years 1986-87 & 1987-88.

No. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	1986-87			1987-88		
		NREP	RLEGP	Scarcity Relief	NREP	RLEGP	Scarcity Relief
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	120560	95560	—	48715	48715	—
2.	Assam	10040	10040	—	10230	10230	—
3.	Goa	900	900	—	835	835	—
4.	Gujarat	99420	16460	—	18765	18765	200000
5.	Haryana	9320	9320	—	5285	5285	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6000	6000	—	3070	3070	—
7.	Karnataka	82897	63620	—	23500	23500	—
8.	Kerala	37680	62680	—	19200	19200	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	227960	82960	18750	42290	42290	100000
10.	Maharashtra	11450	22900	55000	11200	11200	—
11.	Manipur	1080	540	—	500	500	—
12.	Meghalaya	760	760	—	715	715	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Nagaland	1220	1220	—	555	555	—
14.	Orissa	44040	36263	—	22445	22445	—
15.	Rajasthan	238800	38800	300000	22095	22095	200000
16.	Sikkim	1062	622	—	370	370	—
17.	Tamil Nadu	94800	79948	—	40155	40155	—
18.	Tripura	1640	1640	—	1505	1505	—
19.	Uttar Pradesh	276340	276340	—	100805	100805	—
20.	A&N Islands	780	780	—	715	715	—
21.	D&N Haveli	400	400	—	370	370	—
22.	Delhi	350	350	—	390	390	—
23.	Pondicherry	780	780	—	715	715	—
	ALL INDIA	1268279	808883	373750	374425	374425	500000

Import of pulses for Rajasthan

3277. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of pulses imported and the quantum given to Rajasthan for local consumption during the last two years;

(b) the time by which it will be supplied to the State; and

(c) the extent to which it will meet the requirements of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The quantity of pulses imported during the last two years has been of the following order on the basis of information furnished by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED):

Import of Pulses

(Qty. in lakh tonnes)

Year	Quantity
1984-85	2.35
1985-86	3.18*

* Provisional

According to the policy, pulses are allowed for imports by all persons on the basis of registration of contracts by intending importers with the NAFED. Imports are registered portwise and not State-wise. The importers are free to sell the imported stocks in the port-towns/outside port-towns.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

EPF and ESI Facilities extended to Industries in Andhra Pradesh

3278. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the names of industries/factories in Andhra Pradesh where the facility of Employees Provident Fund and ESI is not provided to the workers; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to extend the facility of Provident Fund and ESI benefits to these workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The available information is as given below:—

EPF Facilities:

The EPF Act is at present applicable to 173 industries/classes of establishments employing 20 or more persons. The factories/establishment in Andhra Pradesh, which fall in the specified industries/classes of establishment are coverable under the Act, after completion of prescribed infancy period of 3/5 years and their employees' are entitled to the benefit of provident fund.

ESI Facilities

The ESI Act is applicable in the first instance, to factories employing 20 or more persons and using power in the manufacturing process. The Act is being gradually extended by the State Governments to certain new classes of establishments such as smaller power using factories employing 10 to 19 persons and factories not using power and employing 20 or more persons. The Act is generally implemented in the areas where there is concentration of 500 or more coverable employees and for whom viable medical arrangements can be made. As on 31.3.86, the ESI Corporation had identified 20 industrial centres, with about 19,800 workers in Andhra Pradesh who were yet to be brought within the purview of the ESI Act.

(b) The ESI Corporation has chalked out a programme in consultation with the Government of Andhra Pradesh to implement the scheme in 10 industrial centres

covering about 9555 employees during the year 1987-88.

Import of pulses for Andhra Pradesh

3279. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pulses imported and quantum out of it supplied to Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether any demand was made to import more pulses for the requirement of the State, if so, the enhanced quantity thereof; and

(c) the time by which pulses will be given to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The quantity of pulses imported during the last three years has been of the following order on the basis of the information furnished by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED):

Import of Pulses
(Qty. in lakh tonnes)

Year	Quantity
1983-84	2.28
1984-85	2.35
1985-86	3.18*

* Provisional

According to the policy, pulses are allowed for imports by all persons on the basis of registration of contracts by the intending importers with the NAFED. imports are registered port-wise and not State-wise. The importers are free to sell the imported stocks in the port-towns/outside port-towns.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Job Evaluation Committee for CPWD Engineers

3280. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had constituted a job Evaluation Committee after the receipt of Fourth Pay Commission Report and the Committee had given its recommendation in favour of granting higher pay to the CPWD Junior Engineers than the Draftsman, Grade-I; and

(b) the follow-up action taken by Union Government with regard to this recommendation keeping in view that the Draftsmen, Grade-I's scale of pay is Rs. 1600-2600 and the immediate higher pay scales is Rs. 1640-2900?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). A Committee was constituted for undertaking a comparative Job Evaluation of the duties and responsibilities attached to the posts of Junior Engineers and Draftsmen Grade I in the Central PWD. It did not make any recommendation regarding pay scales of the two posts.

Procedure for recruitment in A.I.

3281. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of personnel on the pay role of the Air India category-wise as on 31 March, 1986;

(b) the number of personnel in each category recruited during 1986;

(c) whether recruitment was based on a written test followed by interview; and

(d) the composition of recruitment committees in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). The number of personnel on the pay roll of Air India as on 31st March, 1986 was 17,458. Other information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Procedure of recruitment in IA

3282. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of personnel on the pay role of the IAC category-wise as on 31 March, 1986;

(b) the number of personnel in each category recruited during 1986;

(c) whether recruitment was based on a written test followed by interview; and

(d) the composition of recruitment committees in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER), (a) The category-wise staff strength of Indian Airlines as on 31.3.86 is given in Statement-I below.

(b) The number of personnel in each category recruited during 1986 is given in Statement-II below.

(c) Depending on the category of posts, of the three procedures outlined below was followed:

i) A written test followed by Group Discussion and interview

ii) A trade test and interview

iii) Interview only.

(d) The composition of the recruitment board constituted for appointment to various categories is as under:—

a) *Officers' Cadre:* Ad-hoc Boards are formed, consisting of 3 officers from different departments. An officer belonging to SC/ST cadre is also associated.

(b) *Skilled/Semi-skilled cadres: (3/6 to 9)* Regional Director or his nominee/Deptt. Head or his nominee and Manager, Personnel Services or his nominee.

(c) *Unskilled cadres*: The Board consists of Departmental Head or his nominee and Manager, Personnel Services or his nominee.

An officer belonging to SC/ST community, Minority community and a Hqrs. representative are also associated for recruitment to (b) and (c) cadres.

STATEMENT-I

INDIAN AIRLINES : HQRS.

Categorywise number of Employees on the Payrolls of Indian Airlines as on 31.3.1986.

Department/Category	Number of Employees
ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL	
Managing Director	1
Dy. Managing Director	2

Regional Directors	3
Director, Support Services	1
Dy. Director of Personnel/Manager, Personnel Services/ Secretary/Indl. Relations Mgr./Sr. Dy. Pers. Manager/ Trg. Mgr./Sr. Dy. Mgr., Personnel Services/Sr. Dy. Indl. Rels. Manager	15
Dy. Pers. Mgr/Dy. Mgr. Pers. Services/Dy. Indl. Rels. Mgr./ Dy. Trg. Mgr./Ch. Admni. Officer/Asstt. Pers. Mgr./Asstt. Mgr., Pers. Services/Asstt. Indl. Rels. Mgr./Asstt. Trg. Mgr./Asstt. Admin. Mgr./Pers. Officer/Indl. Rels. Officer/ Trg Officer/Admin. Officer/Law Officer/Sports Officer.	94
Private Secretary	17
Office Supdt./Office Asstt./Typist	1053
Confidential Steno/Stenographer	335
Daftry/Duplicator Operator	116
Peon	478
Gardener	11
Sweeper	401
FLYING OPERATIONS (INCLUDING C.T.E.)	
Director of Operations	1
Director of Training	1
Dy. Dir. of Ops/Ops. Mgr.	6
Dy. Operations Manager	34
Line Pilots	377
Manager, Flight Engineering	6
Flight Engineers	37
Chief Cabin Crew	2
Cabin Crew	787
GROUND OPERATIONS (INCLUDING C.T.E.)	
Flight Manager	5
Dy. Mgr. Flt. Ops./Asstt. Mgr. Flt. Ops/Flt. Ops. Officer	117
Manager, Tech. Trg./Manager P. & Nav. Trg.	6
Dy. Mgr., Tech. Trg./Dy. Mgr., P. & Nav. Trg. Ground Instructors	21

Instructresses	6
Ops. Supdt./Ops. Asstt.	134
PUBLIC RELATIONS :	
Public Relations Manager	1
Sr. Dy. Public Relations Manager	2
Dy. Public. Relations Manager/Sr. Public Rels officer/ Public Relations Officer/Print Officer	10
Asstt. (Editorial)/Machine Operator Blue Print Operator.	13
COMMUNICATIONS	
Communications Manager	1
Dy./Asstt. Communications Manager/ Communications Officer/Jr. Officer (Signals)	6
Chief Telephone Operator/Telephone Operator	115
TRANSPORT	
Transport Manager/Sr. Transport Officer/ Transport Officer	24
Leading Hand/Master Technician (M.T.)/Technician (M.T.)	153
Transport Supdt./Transport Asstt.	67
Drivers/Operators/Jr. Operator	882
Helper (M.T.)	183
CIVIL ENGINEERING :	
Deputy Chief Engineer (Civil)	1
Sr. Executive Engineer	2
Executive Engineer/Civil Engineer/Asstt. Civil Engg.	24
Overseer	17
Draughtsman	15
Lift Operator	6
Caretaker/Asstt. Caretaker	4
Mechanic (Electrical)	5
FINANCE :	
Director, Finance	1

Dy. Director, Finance/Finance Manager/Sr. Asstt. Financial Controller/Sr. Dy. Finance Manager	12
Asstt. Fin. Controller/Dy. Fin. Manager/Asstt. Fin. Manager/Accounts Officer	120
Accounts Supdt./Accounts Asstt./Station Accountant/ Cashier/Chief Comptist /Comptist.	1057
INTERNAL AUDIT :	
Chief Audit Officer	1
Sr. Dy. Chief Audit Officer	1
Regional Auditor/Dy. Chief Audit Officer/Sr. Audit Officer/Audit Officer	34
Audit Supdt./Chief Stock Verifier/Audit Asstt./ Stock Verifier	80
STORES :	
Controller of Stores & Purchases	1
Dy. Controller, Stores & Purchases/Manager, S & P	5
Dy./Assistant Manager, Stores & Purchases/S & P.O.	
Stores & Supplies Supdt./Assistant	656
Tailor/Carpenter (Stores)	14
Helper (Stores)	225
MEDICAL:	
Chief Medical Officer	1
Dy. Chief Medical Officer	1
Asstt. Ch. Medical Officer/Sr. Medical Officer/Med. Officer	25
Chief Pharmacist/Pharmacist	61
SECURITY/VIGILANCE :	
Chief Vigilance Officer*	1
Dy. Chief Security/Vigilance Officer/Sr. Security Officer/Vigilance Officer/Security Officer/ Asstt. Vigilance Officer.	28
Security Supdt./Security Assistant	85
Security Guard/Watcher Constable	464

PLANNING:

Director, Planning	1
Planning Manager	1
Asstt. Planning Manager/Sr. Planning Officer	2

COMMERCIAL:

Commercial Director	1
Commercial Manager/Sr. Dy. Commercial Manager	38
Dy. Commercial Manager/Asstt. Commercial Manager/ Traffic Officer	396
Traffic Supdt./Traffic Asstt.	2324
Pax. Facilitation Asstt.	30
Lady (Ground) Receptionist	8
Receptionist	3
Loader	2019

CATERING:

Catering Manager	1
Dy. Catering Manager/Sr. Catering Officer	28
Catering Supdt./Catering Asstt.	116
Head Cook/Cook/Cook Helper	59
Helper (Catering)	372
* On deputation	1

FLIGHT SAFETY :

Dy. Manager, Flight Safety/Asstt. Manager Flt. Safety	4

E.D.P./R.T.C.:

Manager, E.D.P.	1
Sr. Dy. Manager (Systems)	3
Dy. Manager (Systems/Computer Ops./Data Commn.)	15
Asstt. Manager (Systems/Computer Ops)/Computer Officer (Technical)/Systems Officer/D.C.M.O.	79
Chief/Teleprinter Operator	213
Key Punch Operator/Console Operator	77

ENGINEERING :	
Director of Engineering	1
Dy. Dir. of Engg./Ch. Engg. Mgr./Engg. Mgr./Dy.Engg. Mgr/ Asstt. Engg. Mgr./Controller, Ground Support/Dy. Controller, Ground Support	93
Supdt./Sr. Aircraft Engineer/Aircraft Engineer	679
Supdt./Sr. Aircraft Engineer/Aircraft Engineer Chief Technical Officer/Sr. Technical Officer/Technical Officer/Asstt. Technical Officer/Principal Training Officer/Sr. Trg. Officer/Training Officer/Chief Industrial Engineer/Senior Industrial Engineer/ Industrial Engineer/Chief Plant Engineer/Sr. Plant Engineer/ Plant Engineer/Asstt. Plant Engineer.	163
Chief Flt. Simulator Maint. Engineer/Flight Simulator Maint. Engineer?Asstt. Flight Simulator Maint. Engineer	12
Foreman/Chargehand/Master Technician/Aircraft Technician/Plant Technician	2787
Flight Simulator Maintenance Technician	6
Technical Assistant	138
Librarian	19
Helper (Engineering)	1355
Total	19588
CANTEEN :	
Canteen Employees	604

STATEMENT-II

Number of persons recruited during 1986

Sl. No.	Category of Post	No of Posts filled
1	2	3
1.	Catering Manager	1
2.	Technical Instructor	1
3.	Flt. Simulator Maint Engineer	3
4.	Computer Officer (Tech.)	13
5.	Assistant Plant Engineer	22

1	2	3
6.	First Officer (Pilot)	24
7.	Assistant Aircraft Engineers	7
8.	Accounts Officer	10
9.	Computer Operations Officer	2
10.	Security Officer	2
11.	Data Communications Maint. Officer	2
12.	Airhostesses	144
13.	Pax. Facilitation Asstt.	1
14.	Aircraft Technicians	189
15.	M.T. Mechanic	11
16.	Plant Technician	28
17.	Draughtsman	1
18.	Store & Purchase Asstt.	19
19.	Accounts/Audit Assistant	60
20.	Operations Assistant	19
21.	Traffic Assistant	134
22.	Office Assistant/Typist	62
23.	Security Assistant	26
24.	Transport Assistant	7
25.	Catering Assistant	6
26.	Comptist	2
27.	Stenographer	16
28.	Junior Operator	57
29.	Key Punch Operator	1
30.	Security Guard	78
31.	Peon	37
32.	Loader	131
33.	Driver	73

34.	Daftry/Duplicating Operator	7
35.	Helper (Engg./CED/MT)/Helper (Stores)/Helper (Catering)	179
36.	Sweepers	107
	Total	1482
	Centeen Employees	83

[*Translation*]

Complaints against recruiting agencies for sending workers abroad

3283. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints during 1986 against the agencies which are engaged in sending Indian labourers abroad; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against those agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Registration Certificates of 8 Recruiting Agencies were cancelled and suspended in respect of 20 in the year 1986.

Allocation of funds for development of AIR and TV in Bihar

3284. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the development of Television and Radio broadcasting facilities in Bihar during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount spent on the development of these facilities during 1985-86 and 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) (a) The amount allocated for the development of Television and Radio broadcasting facilities in Bihar during the Seventh Five Year Plan is as follows:—

		Amount allocated (in lakhs)
Television	—	3500
Radio broadcasting	—	1780

(b)

		Amount Spent (in lakhs)	
		1985-86	1986-87
Television	—	71	424
Radio broadcasting	—	204	247

[*English*]

Delay due to defects in Aircrafts

3285. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of different types of aircraft defects which cause delay in departure of aircrafts of Indian Airlines by more than an hour;

(b) in how many cases, the flights had to be cancelled because of defects in aircrafts, give details; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve preventive maintenance to minimise the cancellation delay of flights due to aircraft defects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a). Technical delays of more than one hour duration occur in situations such as:—

— Snags on aircraft at outstations which require men and materials to be sent from the base, as all types of spares cannot be stocked at all the stations;

— Snags requiring change of Engine

— Snags requiring change of Auxiliary Power Unit;

— Snag rectification which requires clearance from A.T.C. e.g. Engine run-up;

— Snag rectification requiring permission to reposition the aircraft on tarmac for compass swinging; Radar Checks.

(b) During the three months period (April 1987 to June 1987), on an average, only 1 out of 1000 flights was cancelled due to technical reasons which include those instances where the flight could not be operated even after rectification of defect due to other constraints such as airport operating restriction, or crew flight duty time limitations etc.

(c) Preventive maintenance programmes, formulated in consultation with aircraft manufacturers and the Airworthiness Authority, are already being carried out. Performance of the various aircraft systems and components are monitored and their service life is reduced or increased for optimum reliability. The technical despatch reliability of the Indian Airlines fleet during the first six months of 1987 was 98.65%.

Comparative studies of Boeing and Airbus

3286. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the technical and commercial advantages because of which Airbuses have been/are being purchased in place of Boeing Aircrafts;

(b) the comparative cost of acquisition of Airbuses now being acquired compared to cost of those acquired earlier; and

(c) the comparative cost of operation of old Airbus planes with estimated cost of operation of those being acquired now and the comparative fuel efficiency of both.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The technical and commercial advantages of A-320 aircraft are:—

(i) The Airbus A-320 aircraft is of a futuristic design based on the most modern technology, capable of being operated well upto the end of the 20th century.

(ii) The Airbus A-320 aircraft fitted with V-2500 engine would result in a higher fund generation of Rs 203.61 crores over a 12 year period, representing the economic life of the new aircraft

(iii) It has been assessed that the fuel differential at a stage length of 600 Kms. (representing the average stage length to be operated) would be the lowest in the case of Airbus—A-320 aircraft fitted with the V-2500 engine.

(iv) A-320 is a single aisle Aircraft with 168 seats, wheeas B-757 is single aisle but with 206 seats. The diameter is 8 inches more in the case of Airbus 320 All these give passenger appeal & comfort.

(b) Ten A-300 aircraft have been purchased by Indian Airlines from 1976 till 1982. Unit price of A-320 aircraft for delivery in April 1989 is $39.55 million Indian Airlines was offered A-30084 aircraft for delivery in April 1984 at a price of $56.31 million.

(c) The estimated cash operating costs (Landing & Route Navigation, Traffic handling, Flying and Cabin Crew, Engineering Maintenance and Fuel) in 1989-90 for a stage length of 600 KM for A-320 and A-3008 are about Rs. 35700 and Rs. 79000 On a per seat basis (A-320 : 168 seats and A-3008 : 273 seats), the A-3008 is about 36% more expensive

The fuel consumption of A-320 and A-30084 aircraft at a stage length of 600 km is projected at 17.0 and 29.5 litres respectively

Restrictions on remittances by airlines

3287. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1340 on 5 March, 1987 regarding difficulties faced by Airlines due to restrictions on remittances and state:

(a) the present state of accumulation of funds of Air India in various foreign countries;

(b) the possibility of getting funds remitted country-wise;

(c) whether Air India is continuing its flights to the countries from which it finds difficult to remit the funds; and

(d) if so, how much funds are getting blocked each year in such countries and the details thereof, countrywise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The position of Air India's blocked funds as on 30th June, 1987 is as under:—

Country	Rs. in Crores
Nigeria	22.17
Iraq	22.45
Libya	1.08
Iran	6.24
Zambia	2.07
Tanzania	0.40
South Yemen	0.67
Sudan	0.11
Ghana	0.02
	55.21

(b) While funds are trickling in from Nigeria and Libya, the prospects of repatriating the funds from Iraq and Zambia appear to be bleak at this state. Efforts are being made to expedite repatriation through the help of the Ministry of External Affairs and other agencies.

(c) and (d). Of the countries mentioned in (a) above, Air India is operating now to Nigeria and Tanzania with reduced frequencies. Operations to Zambia are undertaken jointly with Zambian Airways. While the rate of accumulation of funds depends on the revenue generated and would differ from year to year, the figure for Nigeria in 1986-87 was approximately Rs. 5.27 crores and in Zambia Rs. 42 lakhs.

[*Translation*]

Rates of eatables at Bombay airport

3288. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria and the authority who fixes the rates of eatables and soft drinks sold at Bombay Airport and the basis thereof;

(b) the extent to which prices of items sold at the airport are more as compared to those sold in the city and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the instructions issued to check increase in prices and whether these are being compiled with; and

(d) whether the customers are charged the fixed prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The rates of eatables and soft drinks sold in the restaurant and snack-bars at Bombay Airport are fixed with the approval of the International Airports Authority of India. These are approved by I.A.A.I. keeping in view the quantum of business and the prevailing rates in catering establishments of comparable standard in the city. Outside the terminal building, the rates of soft drinks in the restaurant and canteen are generally fixed at par with the market prices.

(b) The rates of some common items like tea, coffee and cold drinks in a 5-Star Hotel's Restaurant range from Rs. 12/- to Rs. 13/ and those in a 3-Star Hotel Restaurant from Rs. 6/- to Rs. 8/-. The rates prevailing at Bombay Airport do not exceed Rs. 6/-.

(c) As per Agreement, increase in rates is required to be approved by I.A.A.I. This is being compiled with.

(d) The customers are charged fixed prices.

Cases pending under DDA Act

3289. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the court of Metropolitan Magistrate (Punjabi Bagh) Tis Hazari, New Court, Delhi under section 29 of Delhi Development Act and the details of each case;

(b) whether it is a fact that the DDA official had registered some cases under section 29 of DDA Act in November, 1986 against those persons who had constructed/altered their houses before 1985; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Additions/alterations in Janta flats of DDA

3290. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received representations requesting for settlement of all cases of alterations/constructions in Janta flats of Paschim Puri in Delhi in the interest of general public and Delhi Development Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and action taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to constitute a committee to settle these cases; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) DDA has reported that a representation to settle the cases of alterations/constructions in Janta Flats of Paschim Puri in Delhi has been received.

(b) to (d). They have requested that action under Section 29 and 34 (a) of Delhi Development Act relating to unauthorised constructions be not taken by the DDA and these provisions repealed

The additions/alterations in Janta flats of Paschim Puri in Delhi will be dealt with according to the DDA lease agreement, building bye-laws etc., and action will be taken against the defaulters for violations thereof and as such there is no Question to constitute a Committee to settle these cases.

Achievements made by Government of Goa under RLEGP

3291. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the Government of Goa and the erstwhile Government of Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme since its enforcement;

(b) the total amount spent; and

(c) the number of persons benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c). The achievement of the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu under the centrally sponsored scheme of Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme since its enforcement have been as under:

Revised	Expenditure incurred (Rs. lakhs)	Employment generated (lakh mandays)
1. Sixth Plan	43.78	2.51
2. 1985-86	48.33	1.99
3. 1986-87	58.79	2.24

Goa became a State on 30.5.1987. The systems and procedures for systematic reporting from the State Government of Goa would take some time to stabilise. The combined achievements of the State of Goa and the Union Territory of Daman & Diu upto the month of June, 1987 are as under:—

	Expenditure incurred (Rs. lakhs)	Employment generated (lakh mandays)
1987-88	20.91	0.87

[*Translation*]

Air Taxi Service in Bihar

3292. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes being adopted in Bihar under the Air Taxi Scheme; and

(b) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Air Taxi Service is a non-scheduled charter service which can operate throughout the country from certain notified air-fields. Ranchi and Jamshedpur are the two notified air fields in Bihar. No programmes under Air Taxi scheme are adopted on State basis.

(b) Question does not arise.

[*English*]

Replacement of 'Kanishka'

3293. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any replacement has been made for the plane 'Kanishka' which crashed on June 23, 1985; and

(b) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Drought in M.P.

3294. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released to Madhya Pradesh for combating drought situation including drinking water scarcity in the State during the current year;

(b) whether Union Government propose to enhance the quantum of assistance in view of acute drought in the State, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIONS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 1768.00 lakhs upto 31.3.87/30.6.87 has been approved for Madhya Pradesh for relief of distress caused by drought. This includes a sum of Rs. 196 50 lakhs for Drinking Water Sector.

(b) and (c). After the receipt of a memorandum from the State Government, report of the Central Team after visiting the State, recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief, the ceilings of central assistance are approved.

Allotment of shops to SC and ST

3295. CHAUDHARY RAM PARKASH Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many shops in all categories have been disposed of/sold during last three years;

(b) out of the total number of shops how many shops were sold/disposed of to General Category, Reserved Category i.e S.C. & S.T., Handicapped and Widows of the Defence Service Personnel;

(c) the percentage of sale/allotment of the shops to the Scheduled Castes/Tribes,

(d) whether there is any short fall in the disposal/allotment of reserved quota shops; and

(e) if so, when this short fall is likely to be made up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) 1251

(b) The requisite information is as under:—

G Category	712 Nos
SC/ST	230 Nos
Land Acquisition	71 Nos
Ex-serviceman	78 Nos
Freedom fighter	25 Nos
War widow	10 Nos
Phy Handicapped	125 Nos
	1251 Nos

(c) 12.8% upto 9 9 86 and 25% thereafter

(d) There is no short fall in the disposal/ allotment of reserved quota shops.

(e) Question does not arise in view of the part (d) above.

Permits for State fisheries corporations

3296. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Fishery Corporations applied for various charter permits during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the pending requests by these corporations, State-wise and Year-wise;

(c) whether the requests have now been cleared; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The proposals for chartering foreign fishing vessels have been received from Orissa Maritime and Chilka Area Development Corporation Ltd., Bhubaneswar and Andhra Pradesh Fisheries Corporation Ltd., Hyderabad during 1987.

(c) and (d). The applications are being processed for taking a decision.

Air Service for Jabalpur

3297. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision to start Vayudoot Service to some more cities in Madhya Pradesh including Jabalpur: and

(b) whether Jabalpur would be directly linked with Delhi and Bhopal by this service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, development of infrastructure and economic viability of operations Vayudoot has plans to airlink Bhilai, Bilaspur and Jagdalpur in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the current plan period. There are, however, no plans to airlink Jabalpur by Vayudoot services.

Sewerage project of Jabalpur

3298. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent to Union Government the revised project of Jabalpur sewerage project in the light of CPHEO technical observations; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shifting of Cropping Research Centre from Bangalore to Jabalpur

3299. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the cropping research centre from Bangalore to Jabalpur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

ICAR Coordinated Research Project

3300. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of ICAR Coordinated Research Schemes, ad-hoc projects and Cess fund Schemes running in different agricultural universities;

(b) the details of above projects proposed to be implemented in different agricultural universities during Seventh Five Year Plan, State-wise

(c) the allocation of funds for above projects during Seventh Five Year Plan, University and State-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that every few projects are incorporated in Madhya Pradesh vis-a-vis other States;

(e) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to remove this imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha.

[*Translation*]

Interest Free Financial Assistance to Fishermen

3301. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to raise the standard of living of fishermen and to bring about improvement in their economic conditions;

(b) the number of fishermen brought above poverty-line as a result thereof during the last three years year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to provide interest free financial assistance to fishermen so as to enable them to run their business smoothly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*English*]

Price of Gas and Neptha

3302. SHRI LALITESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) at what cost the Gas and Neptha is available to fertilizer Industry in the country;

(b) whether any research has been made about the availability of Gas and Neptha to fertilizer industry in the neighbouring countries and at what cost; and

(c) if so, details thereof and what steps Government propose to take to make the availability of Gas and Neptha to fertilizer industry at a reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R PRABHU): (a) Gas and Neptha are made available to the Fertilizer Industry at the following prices:-

Gas = Rs. 1400 per thousands M^3 at land fall point and onshore location and

Rs. 2250 per thousand M^3 along the HBJ pipelines exclusive of sales tax, cess and royalty. (However, the price of gas supplied to Namrup-I, II and III Plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation is Rs. 500 per thousand M^3).

These gas prices correspond to $1.05 to $ 4.8 per million BTU.

Nephtha = Rs. 1982.31 per M. tonne exclusive of excise duty.

(b) Although no research has been made, the price of gas in neighbouring countries Bangladesh, Pakistan .and Burma is about $ 1 per million BTU according to a World Bank publication.

(c) The price of gas in India is an administered price and is based on the cost of production plus a fair rate of return.

Price of Nephtha, however, is lower than the international prices.

Policy for Location of Industries in Delhi

3303. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new policy for location of industries in Delhi has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agriculture Research Centre for Bapatla

3304. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an agriculture research centre at Bapatla in Andhra Pradesh; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) An Agricultural Research Centre of the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University already exists at Bapatla. The ICAR had provided a grant of Rs. 20.44 lakhs to the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 30.6.1980 for the establishment of the Regional Research Station at Bapatla under Phase-I of the National Agricultural Research Project. This assistance had concluded on 29.6.1985 and at present the Research Station is being maintained fully by the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University. The University has now proposed a sub-project for further strengthening of this Research Station under Phase-II of the National Agricultural Research Project. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has constituted an Appraisal Committee to appraise the proposal of the University. The appraisal committee is currently visiting the State to appraise the sub-project. After the report of the appraisal committee has been received in the Council, further action will be taken according to established procedure.

(b) In view of (a), question does not arise.

Cardiology Department at ESI Hospitals

3305. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ESI hospitals are having cardiology department;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The ESI Hospital do not at present provide for super specialist treatment including 'cardiology' and 'open heart surgery'. The ESI Corporation has, however, already authorised the State Governments to provide for super-specialist treatment in renowned hospitals within the State or outside the State. The State Government are also authorised to appoint one or more, part-time specialists in cardiology on zonal basis.

Exclusion of Indian Films from the Cannes IFF

3306. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the seven Indian films entered in the Cannes International Film Festival of 1987 were not selected for screening;

(b) whether India had lodged a protest against this exclusion and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the details of the Indian films offered for selection at the said festival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) According to the prevailing practice, no reasons were conveyed by the Festive authorities for non-screening of films entered by India.

(b) Yes, Sir. Hopefully this would have a beneficial outcome in future years.

(c) Following films were offered for selections:

1. 'Mirch Masala'—Director Ketan Mehta
2. 'Susman'—Director Shyam Bengal
3. 'Oridathu'—Director G. Aravindan
4. 'Atanka'—Director Tapan Sinha
5. 'Yeh Wo Manzil To Nahin'—Director Sudhir Mishra
6. 'Amma Ariyan'—Director John Abraham
7. 'Anantram'—Director Adoor Gopalakrishnan.

[*Translation*]

Stock of Spurious Insecticides

3307. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether large stocks of insecticides lying in various States for several years is not fit for use;

(b) whether it is also a fact that State Government are in a dilemma over the mode of their disposal, so as not to have an adverse impact on fruits, plants, animals and human beings; and

(c) whether Union Government propose to suggest any remedial measures to the State Governments in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir There are some reports to this effect.

(b) and (c). The Central Insecticides Board has issued guidelines to the State Governments and Union Territories for disposal of such stocks of insecticides keeping in view the safety of plants, animals (cattles) and human-beings. The common methods suggested for such disposal include transfer of the insecticides to an abandoned mine pit, or burying it in a large and deep hole with alternate layers of insecticides and sacks of caustic soda and the top layer consisting of at least one metre of soil. Under the provision of Rule 44 of the Insecticides Rules, 1971 due caution has to be exercised in the disposal of insecticides etc. in a safe manner so as to prevent environmental or water pollution.

[*English*]

Setting up of TV Transmitters in Calicut

3308. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up a high-power transmitter in Calicut?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA): There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government at present.

Telecast of TV Serials

3309. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reactions of the TV viewers, that among the serials now being telecast there is none with a humorous entertaining theme; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to remove this imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some serials dealing with humorous entertainment have been approved by Doordarshan.

Vayudoot service for Jammu and Kashmir

3310. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of the proposed Vayudoot Services between Jammu-Kishtwar, Jammu-Poonch, Jammu-Srinagar, Jammu-Rajouri and Srinagar-Kargil which were scheduled to be started in 1986;

(b) the reasons for not introducing the service so far; and

(c) the likely date of starting the service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Vayudoot has plans to airlink Rajouri and Kargil during the current financial year as the airports there require minimal improvements. At Kishtwar an airport has to be constructed for which the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has to develop and hand over the site to the National Airport Authority.

Due to close proximity of Poonch to the Actual Line of Control the proposal to operate Vayudoot service there has been dropped.

Irrigation Projects under DDP in Ladakh and Kargil Districts.

3311. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of medium and small irrigation projects that have been taken up under the Desert Development Project in the Ladakh region of Leh and Kargil districts;

(b) the total cost of each project separately, date of commencement of works, progress made in completion of the projects;

(c) whether the projects are progressing according to schedule and if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that due to some red-tapism on the parts of the project officials, large amount of money is to be paid to the contractors and if so, the total amount involved; and

(e) whether any complaints have been received by the Ministry and if so, the action taken to redress the grievances of contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUL-

TURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c). The system now existing for administration of Desert Development Programme (DDP) is that the Central Government determines the strategy and thrust areas of development, broad sectoral outlays and other relevant parameters of development schemes to be taken up under the programme. While it has been left to the State Governments to formulate, sanction and implement appropriate schemes within the frame-work of guidelines issued by the Central Government from time to time. The State Governments have also been entrusted with the responsibility of effective monitoring of projects and progress of development activities in the concerned districts.

Though the Central Government do not maintain detailed information on individual projects sanctioned by the State Governments, it, however, monitors the overall progress as against the allocations made to the States district wise. It has been reported that the expenditure incurred under "Irrigation" sector in Leh & Kargil districts during 1985-86 and 1986-87 has been as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)
Expenditure incurred

	1985-86	1986-87
Leh	19.37	33.73
Kargil	9.68	57.00

(d) and (e). A complaint has been received that contractors have not received payment for works connected with certain irrigation projects in Leh district under DDP. Since the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the State Government, the complaint has been forwarded to them for appropriate action.

Setting up Radio Stations and TV Centres in Maharashtra

3312. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the projects that are currently under execution both for TV centres and radio stations with locations in Maharashtra; and

(b) when these will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) and (b).

T.V. Centres

Besides augmentation of TV Centre, Bombay and replacement of the existing TV transmitters at Pune, Aurangabad and for second channel, Bombay, by a 10 KW high power transmitter, establishment of a TV studio centre at Pune, high power transmitter at Ambajogai, low power transmitters at Bir, Buldhana, Gadhchiroli, Ichalkaranji, Osmanabad, Pusad, Ratnagiri and Yeotmal and transposers at Aurangabad and Junnar is included in the VII Plan. TV transmitters at Bir, Buldhana and Ratnagiri have since been commissioned. Transmitter at Yeotmal is expected to be commissioned during 1987-88. The remaining projects would be commissioned, subsequently, in phases depending upon supply position of equipment on order, and annual allocation of resources.

Radio Stations

AIR in its 7th Plan, proposes to set up new radio stations in Maharashtra at Kolhapur, Nasik, Ahmadnagar, Dhule, Bir, Chandarpur, Nanded, Akola, Osmanabad, Yeotmal and Satara. All these schemes are expected to be completed by 1989-90, if land is made available by the State Government immediately at those locations where land is yet to be handed over.

Increase in prices of DDA Flats

3313. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DDA has been increasing the prices of LIG/MIG flats

every time on the plea of rise in prices of building material etc.;

(b) whether the wooden doors, windows and other material used in the construction of DDA flats in trans-Yamuna areas have been transported from Jammu and Kashmir; if so, what is the extent of increase of price due to the contract entered into with the contractor in J&K; and

(c) the reasons for entering into this contract and whether any investigation has been conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) DDA has reported that cost of flats is based on the actual cost of construction.

(b) Only wooden doors and no windows were transported from Jammu & Kashmir by the door manufacutring firms to the various sites. There is no increase on account of transportation since the rate for doors includes the charges for transportation to the site of works.

(c) Brief reasons for procuring shutters from Jammu & Kashmir are:—

(a) to have quality product at competitive price.

(b) to have large quantity of shutters in short time.

The Supply contracts had been finalised by works Advisory Board of DDA.

No substandard material has been received. However, minor defects were noticed during inspections at sites, the same have been attended to by the door manufacutirng firm at the site.

Financial Aid to Agro-Based Industries in Bihar

3314.SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance given to Bihar for setting up agro-based industries during the last three years;

(b) the number of such industrial units sanctioned and/or established;

(c) break-up of industrial units by product and district of location; and

(d) the manner in which private entrepreneurs were selected for grant of loans and subsidies for setting up such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Government of India is not providing financial assistance for setting up of Agro-based industries. National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) is promoting and implementing various schemes to encourage establishment/expansion of agro-based industries in the rural areas in the cooperative sector. The financial assistance of Rs. 950.10 lakhs has been provided to the State Government of Bihar for setting up agro-based industries in the cooperative sector during the last three years. The details of this assistance are as under:-

Year	Rs. in lakh
1984-85	620.113
1985-86	318.976
1986-87	11.020

The Khadi and village Industries Commission, Ministry of Industry also provides various types of incentives for promotion of Khadi and Village Industries including Agro-based industries. Agro based industries are entitled to same assistance as is available to other village and Small Scale Industries. There is no separate allocation for promotion of agro-based industries.

(b) During the last three years the number of agro processing units sanctioned and established are as under:—

Sanctioned	3
Established	1

(c) The break-up of agro processing units and district of Location sanctioned during the last three years is as under:—

Sl. No.	Type of Unit	No. of Unit	Name of District
1.	Rice Mill	1	Bhagalpur
2.	Dal Mill	1	Gopalganj
3.	Fruit and Vegetable	1	Munger

(d) The Government of India is not providing any grant of loans and subsidy for setting up of agro based industries to the private entrepreneurs.

Merger of IDC/NDDB

3315. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to merge the Indian Dairy Corporation and the National Dairy Development Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof and objective in view; and

(c) the likely effect on increasing production of milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). A decision has been taken to undertake a legislation for the establishment of a Statutory Corporation to take the place of the National Dairy Development (NDDB) and Indian Dairy Corporation (IDC). This would facilitate institutionalising of the close Cooperation between the two organisations and enable more effective implementation of the Operation Flood III Programme.

Mono Rail/Rapidman Transport System for Hyderabad and Secunderabad

3316. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish a facility like Mono Rail which is a part and parcel of the system known and called as Rapidman Transport system available in America, for development and improvement of the transportation facilities in Andhra Pradesh, in particular the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). No Such proposal is under consideration.

Import of Pulses

3317. SHRI SRIHARI RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pulses are being imported from various countries some of which were exposed to Chernobyl radioactivity fallout;

(b) if so, the quantitites of pulses imported and the names of countries of origin during last three years;

(c) whether Government are aware that heavy pesticides are being used on these pulses both in country of origin and in India;

(d) whether testing of pesticides/ radioactivity has been conducted on each batch on arrival or before release for sale; and

(e) the results of the tests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Pulses are being imported from various countries including Turkey which was reported to be exposed to Chernobyl radioactivity fallout.

(b) The quantity of pulses imported from Turkey during the last three years were approximately of the following order:-

Import of Pulses from Turkey

Year	Quantity imported M/ts.
1983-84	72666
1984-85	61501

During 1985-86 the actual import of pulses from Turkey is not available but the contracts for imports of pulses registered with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED)by the importers was of the order of 56420 MTs.

(c) The use of pesticides on pulses is not recommended by various countries. However, some residues of pesticides used on pulses under field conditions may result in some terminal residues on the pulses after harvest. To avoid any health hazard of even such pesticides residues, tolerance limits for different pesticides have been prescribed.

(d) and (e). Only fumigation of pulses for disinfestation is recommended internationally, to avoid contamination of such foodgrains with pesticides. Samples were also tested for radioactivity and were found to be below the permissible/acceptable level.

Complaint Against Officers in E.P.F. Organisation

3318. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total administrative expenditure of Employees Provident Fund Organisation during the last three years;

(b) the number of court cases filed/defended in respect of service matters during the last three years and year-wise break up of expenditure incurred on these cases; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to reduce such expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The total amount of revenue expenditure incurred by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation yearwise in the last three years is as under:-

Year	Amount of Revenue Expenditure Under Employees' Provident Fund & Family Pension Fund	Under Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance
	(Rs. in lakhs)	(Rs. in lakhs)
1983-84	Rs. 2165.89	Rs. 59.44
1984-85	Rs. 2531 96	Rs. 67.41
1985-86	Rs. 2823.93 (Figures yet to be audited)	Rs. 80.51 (Figures yet to be audited)
Total	Rs. 7521 78	Rs. 207.36

(b) These details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) While the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has rarely filed any case in court in service matters, the organisation can not help defending cases filed by the employees of the Organisation on service matters in the larger interests of the Organisation. However care is being taken to keep the expenditure on court cases in service matters to the minimum.

Price Rise in Fruits and Vegetables

3319. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been stagnation in production of fruits and vegetables leading to price rise and non-availability of these protective foods, including milk, meat, fish etc. to weaker sections; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Although no firm estimates of production of all fruits & vegetables in the country are available, due to several Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored and State Sector programmes for augmenting production, it is likely that there has not been any stagnation in the production of these crops. All-India production of principal protective foods during the past few years, like milk, eggs, meat and fish given in Statement-I below indicates that the production has not declined in respect of these commodities.

Statement - II below gives all-India Index Numbers of wholesale prices of fruits, vegetables, milk, meat, eggs and fish during 1987 (June-end), as compared to the corresponding index numbers in the previous three years. The recent price rise in respect of few fruits & vegetables and milk is on account of seasonality factor and drought conditions. The price rise in respect of other protective foods is in line with the increase in prices of major food articles.

STATEMENT-I

All-India Production of Selected Protective Foods

Commodity	Unit	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87 (Provisional) (Anticipated)
Milk	Million tonnes	38.9	41.0	42.3	44.0
Meat	—do—	0.98	1.01	1.04	
Eggs	Thousand million numbers	12.8	14.3	15.4	15.9
Fish	Million tonnes	2.59	2.80	2.88	2.92

Note: (a) Years relate to financial years (April - March)

(b) Production of meat is for the calendar years; Figures for 1983, are given against 1983-84 and so forth. The figures are as published in the FAO Production Book (1985), in case of India.

STATEMENT-II

All-India Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices of Selected Commodities/Groups

(Base 1970-71=100)

Commodity/Group	Index numbers of end-June during the year			
	1984	1985	1986	1987
Fruits	364.9	474.3	449.5	537.5
Vegetables	247.1	228.1	396.2	339.7
Milk	266.5	280.9	287.3	311.1
Meat	404.5	483.8	564.5	597.1
Eggs	188 5	182.6	211.5	212.3
Fish	436.6	494.9	577.8	643.2

Waiving of farm Loans

3320. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: *Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be* pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the States have taken a decision to waive farm loans upto Rs. 20,000/- and to liberalise the social security package to weaker sections as it has greatly affected the implementation of the on-going and new agricultural and rural development schemes;

(b) if so, to what extent it has affected;

(c) whether the continuance of the Centrally aided poverty alleviation programmes have also been seriously affected;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Union Government in this regard; and

(e) the extent to which the waiver of farm loans has affected the development schemes in the States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a) No formal intimation has been received by the Government of India about the decision of any State Government to waive farm loan upto Rs. 20,000.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Intra-Ministerial Policy Planning and Monitoring Cell

3321. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is planning to create a High-level Intra-ministerial Policy Planning and Monitoring Cell;

(b) if so. the reasons for creating such a Cell,

(c) whether this Cell will have experts from various Government media cells; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d). The Government has decided to *set up a Policy Planning Cell in* this Ministry with a view to evolve proper strategies for dissemination of information in a more coordinated and effective manner. This

Cell will have 4 Media Experts representing various disciplines like electronic media, print media and inter-personal communication.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 175 DATED 27.7.87 RE: STRIKE BY CPWD WORKERS.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): Reply to part (a) of the question contains a factual error regarding the date from which the CPWD Mazdoor Union resorted to strike. The error is typographical and the revised reply to this part is given below:

Question

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of the CPWD went on an indefinite strike from June 23, 1987 to press their demands;

Answer

(a) Yes, the workers owing allegiance to the CPWD Mazdoor Union resorted to strike w.e.f. 23.6.87. The strike has since been called off w.e.f. the night of 29.6.87.

2. The inconvenience caused to the House is regretted.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, Janata Party President's photograph has been exhibited along with the national flag. It is an insult to the national flag. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): Sir, it is violation of the low It is an insult to the national flag. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Naik look here. I am on my legs. Please listen to me. What are you doing?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, it violates two Acts.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't you listen now? What is this? You have taken the law in your own hands.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: They have taken the law in their own hands.

MR. SPEAKER: The first thing is that no display is allowed in the House. It is against the Rules. Secondly, if you have got any complaint or any law has been broken Government agency is there and you can also write to me.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: You direct the hon. Minister to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Not only I will direct but I will also go into the matter and see if there is any breakage of law. But this is not the way Until and unless I get confirmation I cannot do it but this display I do not allow.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: It is violation of the law.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give it to me. I will look into this. There is no problem. Mr. Naik, there is no problem. You must realise that I have to know what is what. If any law is broken I have to establish it. I cannot take it up like that.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: You can suspend the rules and go through it.

MR. SPEAKER: There are customs and conventions which have to be observed.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: National honour is above that...

MR. SPEAKER: Everything comes under that. Even that has to be done

according to the law. It is all right now. But it has to be done according to the law. Law is law for you as well as for them. Government is there to look after the breakage of law.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: You suspend the rules. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You take over the Chair and decide it then.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do, Mr. Minister? How can I run the House if they are so unruly? Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you wasting the time of the House?

[*English*]

What fun do you get out of it?

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, I would like to know whether he is permitted to exhibit such things in the House. In the other House our Member has been suspended for one week for exhibiting such things. So what action do you propose to take?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Raghuma Reddy, that was something else, There is difference between this and that. I know it. I will do whatever is permissible. It is all right. Do not shout. Please sit down.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: If it is allowed then we will exhibit so many things.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention. Under rule 184 I have given you notice of a resolution. Already the Chief Public Prosecutor of Stockholm has made a public announcement. I have given you notice under rule 184 and I am requesting the Government of India that they should file a complaint with the Swedish authorities.

MR. SPEAKER: You write to me.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There is already an announcement by the Chief Public Prosecutor in Stockholm that he could initiate an inquiry into the Bofors matter if the Indian Government files a complaint with the Swedish authorities and makes a request. I am requesting that...

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Again he is trying to sidetrack the issue. Already there is a motion to appoint a committee. They can join that. *(Interruptions)*

This is only a politically motivated propaganda. Let me make it very clear that the Government is very keen to get at the truth.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The House should welcome the announcement by the Chief Public Prosecutor.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are they making a noise?

[*English*]

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: You can join the committee and stop this politically motivated propaganda without any evidence.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to restrain you both. Now sit down, both of you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr.

**Not recorded.

Speaker, what is your observation on my notice under Rule 184?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK (Buldhana): During the flag hoisting ceremony on 15th August, several NSU activists have been murdered. These types of murders have been continuously taking place in the State of Tripura. Several NSU activists have been killed. These activists have been ruthlessly murdered. Three activists have been admitted....*(Interruptions)*

There have been no arrests uptill now.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a law and order problem. I cannot take up here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, what is your ruling?

MR. SPEAKER: I Will consider whatever I can do. I always consider. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

Do not sit with the flag like this.

[*English*]

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Will you please order an inquiry into this?

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): You should take notice of this. We have drawn your kind attention.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that you give me in writing and I will consider it. I always consider. Mr. Bhanu, this is not the way. Here everything is done in a proper way. You may waste 10 minutes or 50 minutes. It is your time that is going waste.

[*English*]

I am not going to add a single word to that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) I have written to you about a very serious matter affecting the national security. I have written to you about the published allegation that the Governor of Manipur has reported something to the Centre about the conduct of Chief Minister of Manipur. I have sent you a detailed note. I would like to know what you are doing about that.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR SPEAKER : I have not seen it.

[*English*]

I will see to it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): In the riots that took place in Delhi and Meerut, people have suffered losses. Their houses have been burnt down and their shops have been looted but they have not been paid any compensation up till now.

MR SPEAKER : Jai Prakashji, kindly listen; we are having a discussion on it.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Please accede to my request. They have become homeless. Save them.....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing. I do not listen to him.

[*Translation*]

This is not the way. You have got the rules. You give me in writting under Rule 377.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : I have given in writing. My turn has not come. When it will come?

MR. SPEAKER : It will come.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : When it will come? Will it come when the people will be no more?

MR. SPEAKER : I will break the law neither for you nor for myself. Whatever is done, will be done properly and according to the rules and not like this.

[*English*]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) We are every day talking of national integration and communal harmony. To highlight that idea, about 30 lakh people stood hand in hand for 700 kilometres—the biggest in the world; that incident happened in Kerala on the Independence Day...

MR SPEAKER : What is the problem?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : But the Television, Sir, are every day propagating communal and other obscurantist activities but they failed to cover such an unprecedented event for communal harmony and national integration. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : It is a very serious thing.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked you to give me in writing.

[*English*]

It is all right. I am not concerned with it like that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am making an announcement.

12.10 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER : On 11th May, 1987, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Member of Parliament, gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri Arun Singh, the then Minister of State in the Department of Defence, Research and Development in the Ministry of Defence for allegedly, deliberately and knowingly misleading the House, while making a statement in Lok Sabha on 15 April, 1987, on the "inquiry ordered by the former Minister of Defence into payment of commission by the supplier to an Indian agent in a defence deal". The Minister had *inter alia* stated as follows:

> "On assuming office, the Prime Minister reiterated the existing instruction that the Department of Defence should not deal with any non-governmental agent of a foreign supplier in respect of any commercial negotiations. The Prime Minister also directed that foreign governments and suppliers should be told unequivocally about the decision. This policy directive has been enforced rigorously by the Department of Defence with satisfactory results".

Referring to a news report which appeared in the *Statesman* of 9th May, 1987, under the caption "Arms and the man in the middle", Shri Chatterjee stated that it appeared from the said Report that "in the matter of several defence deals, non-governmental agent(s) had important or active role to play in respect of commercial negotiations. In this connection, the role of Messrs Eureka Sales Corporation, New Delhi, has been specifically mentioned together with particulars of the correspondence exchanged between the Defence Department or Defence officers and the said Eureka Sales Corporation. The report also quotes extensively from such correspondence which clearly establishes beyond doubt that the said non-governmental concern had, in fact, acted as an agent or a middleman".

Shri Chatterjee had enclosed a copy of the said report and contended that "the

statement made by Shri Arun Singh in Lok Sabha was neither candid nor factually correct and his assertion that the policy directive allegedly given by the Prime Minister 'had been enforced rigorously by the Department of Defence', was contrary to the real state of affairs. In the circumstances, there is strong *prime facie* evidence, if not proof, that with a view to mislead the Hon. House and the Members, the Minister concerned had knowingly taken recourse to prevarication and untruth and is thus guilty of deliberate breech of privilege of the Hon. House and the Members...".

I referred the matter to Shri Arun Singh for his comments. In his reply dated 2nd June, 1987, Shri Arun Singh stated *inter alia* that the seven letters quoted in the news report, "are (implicitly) alleged to depict a situation contrary to what had been stated by me in the Lok Sabha on 15h April, 1987.... It will be clear that what I had stated was (a) that the Department of Defence should not deal with such agents and (b) the prohibition was in respect of commerical negotiations....none of the seven letters referred to in the Press Report originated from the Department of Defence. Further, none of them related to any commercial negotiations". A copy of Shri Arun Singh's reply was handed over to Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

Commenting on Shri Arun Singh's reply, Shri Chatterjee has, in his letter dated 12th August, 1987, addressed to me, stated as follows:

> "In his letter, Shri Singh has himself referred to said seven different letters/communications and has not challenged their authenticity and has given his reply accepting the genuineness of the same....It is clear that Shri Singh is trying to make a distinction between Department of Defence simpliciter and Defence establishments/organisations and apparently between commercial negotiations and commercial transactions. There cannot be any difference between commercial negotiations and commercial transactions.... Further, it is amazing that the letters and correspondence from high defence officials of the Air Head Quarters and other important Defence Establishments are treated to be totally divorced from the Department of Defence. Is it the contention of Mr Arun Singh that important Defence Establishments and organizations were having deals with middlemen, and that there was an embargo only on Department of Defence as has been emphasised by Shri Singh in his letter.... Are not important military establishments / organizations under the control of the Department of Defence? They cannot be independent authorities dehors the control of the Defence Department"

Shri Chatterjee has contended that "it is abundantly clear that there was a deliberate attempt to mislead the House and the Hon. Members and it seems to me that the breach of privilege on the part of Shri Arun Singh is almost self-confessed".

I have gone into the matter carefully. In an earlier case of this nature in 1979, the then Speaker, Lok Sabha, while giving his ruling on a question of privilege regarding an alleged misleading statement made by a former Minister of State in the Department of Revenue and Banking and a member of Rajya Sabha, regarding voluntary disclosures of income and wealth in the context of recommendations made by Public Accounts Committee in their 123rd Report (Sixth Lok Sabha), referred the matter to the Chairman of Rajya Sabha in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Report of the Joint Sitting of the Committees of Privileges of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

As hon. Members are aware, Shri Arun Singh is a member of the Rajya Sabha. The question of privilege can, therefore, be dealt with only by that House in accordance with the procedure laid down in the above Report which was adopted by the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 2nd and 6th December, 1954 respectively. I, therefore, propose to refer the matter to the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, for such action as she may consider necessary and proper.

MR.SPEAKER : Shri G.S. Dhillon.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad) : May I invite the hon, Speaker's attention to the notice given by me against the *Indian Express* for a breach of privilege for their editorial of 8th August 1987, where the Speaker has been categorised as partisan?

MR. SPEAKER : We have already referred it to them.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : There are three privilege notices given by me. Please try to expedite them before the end of this Session.

MR SPEAKER : We are going to sit for some more days.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): We had given the notices almost at the beginning of the Session.

MR. SPEAKER : Certain things take time.

12.16 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

Notification under Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Registration, Membership, Direction and Management, Settlement of Disputes, Appeal and Revision) Amendment Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 653(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1987 under sub-section (3) of section 109 of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4619/87]

Notifications under Industrial Dispute Act, 1947 and Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 1919 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1987 adding item 27 *viz.*, Service in the International Airports Authority of India to the First Schedule to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the said Act. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4620/87]

(2) A copy of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (Junior Microbiologist) Recruitment Regulations, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. A-12(11)-4/84-Estt. I(A) in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1987 under sub-section (4) of section 97 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4621/87]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Rajasthan State Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Jaipur for 1984-85 and Statement for delay in laying these papers and Statement explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited

Accounts of Animal Welfare Board of India, Madras for 1984-85 and 1985-86 in time

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rajasthan State Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1984-85.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rajasthan State Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4622/87]

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Madras, for the years 1984-85 and 1985-86, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting Year. [Placed in Library *See* No. LT-4623/87]

12.17 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fortieth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : I beg to move:

> "That this House do agree with the Fortieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 14th August, 1987.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

> "That this House do agree with the Fortieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 14th August, 1987.

The motion was adopted.

12.17½ hrs.

ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) CONTINUANCE BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to continue the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 for a further period.

MR SPEAKER : The question is:

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to continue the Essen-

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*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 2 dated 17 8 1987

tial Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 for a further period."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I introduce the Bill.

12.18 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Engilsh*]

(i) Need to educate people in fire fighting methods and to introduce latest fire fighting devices.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : The recent fire tragedies in multi-storeyed buildings in Delhi, focus attention on the total lack of any fire protection measures in most offices whether located in multi-storeyed buildings or elsewhere. There also does not exist any fire drill that would help save many lives in case of fire. The fire fighting service comes into operation only when there is fire. This concept must change. Government must instruct fire fighting service to undertake regular fire drills in offices, particularly those in multi-storeyed buildings. These drills would help instruct people trapped in fire how to plan their escape instead of simply jumping out of windows and getting killed in the process, as happened in a recent fire in Delhi. There are also new devices that are being marketed in the USA which are quite cheap but which could be of immense help in keeping smoke and fire out of harm to human lives. Government must investigate these devices and if found suitable call for their manufacture here and compulsory use in offices so that in case of fire, the employees have these devices available for escape from being as phyxiated.

12.19 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

(ii) Need to ensure implementation of Sections, 51, 52 and 53 of Factories Act in BHEL, Bhopal

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the BHEL, Bhopal is a public undertaking where 6 to 7 thousand workers are compelled to work overtime from December to March every year besides fixed hours of duty in order to achieve the production target. In this way every worker is put to work in the factory 250 to 300 hours extra.

Sections 51, 52 and 53 of the factory Act and the Standing Order applicable to this factory stipulate that if a worker is put to work more than 9 hours in a day or more than 48 hours in a week, such worker should be paid double of the wages for the extra work done by him but in this factory about 6,000 workers are put to work 250 to 300 hours extra without any extra payment in violation of the Factory Act and the Standing Order. The management compel the worker to take extra leave in lieu of overtime of which there is no provision in the Factory Act and the Standing Order. Violation of the Factory Act and the Standing Order is a punishable offence but the management of this undertaking is violating them openly and in this way the workers are deprived of their dues, which come to about Rs. 2 crore in a year. This has given rise to discontentment among the workers.

Therefore, the hon. Labour Minister should look into the matter and take stringent action against such Officers who are responsible for violating the Act.

[*English*]

(iii) Demand for a planned approach towards eradication of poverty

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi): Sir, while celebrating 40th anniversary of the Independence during which India has emerged as a self-reliant poten-

[Shri Jagannath Patnaik]

tial independent democracy with much of advancement in field of science and technology we cannot afford to ignore the struggle of fellow beings who are fighting for their basic human needs who are not only lacking in calorie contents but also other basic needs. Our entire planned approach should be aimed at ameliorating their condition so as to bring them above the poverty line within a period of ten years, when we will observe the 50th anniversary of our Independence.

(iv) Need to amend the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes order

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU (Adoor): There have been persistent demands for amending the Scheduled Castes and Tribes order. This is overdue. The present list has created many anomalies. While many ineligible communities have found a place in the list, many deserving communities are still left out. Since reservation and other facilities are the main instrument of their uplift, the communities which are left out live in poverty, due to lack employment opportunities etc. This situation calls for an urgent review of the list.

I, therefore, request the Government to bring suitable amendment to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes order during this Session itself.

(v) Need to replace Godawari Express with two trains- one from Waltair to Hyderabad and the other from Kakinada to Hyderabad

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada): Godawari Express starts from Waltair to Hyderabad at 4.00 P.M. with 36 bogies and two engines. The timing of this train is not suitable to the people of this area which is developing very fast into an industrial area. It is, therefore, requested that instead of one train with 36 bogies and two engines, two trains with one engine and 18 bogies each may be introduced— one from Waltair to Hyderabad and the other from Kakinada to Hyderabad.

I request the Railway Minister to consider the suggestion favourably. This will solve many of the problems of the people of this area.

(vi) Need to establish STD facility at Vakathnam Telephone Exchange in Kerala

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Vakathanam Telephone Exchange was established more than twenty years back, linking it with Kottayam Exchange. There has been practically no improvement in this Exchange during this period. Despite assurances for its expansion in the last four years nothing has been done. In this connection it may be mentioned that there are hundreds of families residing in this Exchange area whose members are working outside India in Gulf countries, USA, Canada, etc. They are earning lot of foreign exchange which is being used for the development of the country. For quick communication with these people in different countries STD facility at Vakathanam Exchange is very essential. As this Exchange is directly connected to a major exchange *viz.*, Kottayam, it will be easier to establish STD facility. I, therefore, request the concerned authorities to take necessary steps to establish STD facility at Vakathanam Exchange.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need to include certain projects in Eighth Five Year Plan to provide drinking water to Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur from Indira Gandhi Canal

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance.

The drinking water problem in the desert

districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur of Rajasthan has assumed an alarming proportion. This problem continues every year due to the lack of rainfall. The State Government has tried to solve this problem of drinking water in hundreds of villages to a great extent by installing tube-wells in the last seven years with their means and with the cooperation of the Central Government but the quantity of water in the tube-wells is not enough for all the towns, villages and hamelets.

For this, the Indira Gandhi Canal is the only proper and permanent solution. The Indira Gandhi Canal has reached Nachna Mohangarh in the Jaisalmer district and Falaudi in Jodhpur district. Work on the Sagar Mal Gopa Branch is going on from Mohangarh to Gadra Road. Schemes for providing drinking water to the cities and rural areas of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan, from the Pokharan lift Canal, the Falaudi Kolayat lift canal and the Sagar Mal Gopa Branch Canal, which is a flow canal and which is to be extended upto Gadra Road, should be drawn and included in the Eighth Five Year Plan. This is the only permanent solution of drinking water problem in the desert districts. The Central Government should provide a special assistance of Rs. 500 crores for this purpose so that the water of the Indira Gandhi Canal could reach the Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[*English*]

(viii) Need to inspire people to donate body organs, particularly kidneys

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali): Every other day, we have pathetic letters in newspapers requesting for donation of kidney for a patient who has lost the functions of both his or her kidneys. Similar appeals for hearts and other transplantable organs are fewer, but still do exist. Even normally, those patients who lost the functioning of both their kidneys have to be put on a costly dialysis for long periods, which most common people cannot afford. The practice of kidney or organ donations has not caught up in this country. Partly, this is because of lack of information, and also due to fears and obsessions. This has, on the other hand, led to clandestine sale of organs, particularly kidneys which is arranged by unscrupulous people. The poor are often the unwitting victims of this racketeering. The Government should make use of the television media to inform the people about organ donation, particularly of the dead. That thereby, even in death one could be of some help to some suffering human being, should be propagated. A Foundation could be created to receive and store organs in specified hospitals for free transfer to those who need it. If Government creates infrastructure, organ donation could be expected to catch up, helped by a little publicity.

12.27 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: DROUGHT SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture in the House on the 30th July, 1987 regarding drought situation in the country.

Now Mr. Makwana.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, the other day, i.e. on Friday, I gave an account of the rainfall in this country, the situation created due to the sparse rain in many parts of the country, and the position of the crops—i.e. what the position of the crop is. That I gave. Today, I will deal with some of the points raised by some of the hon. Members in this House.

The first speaker, Shri Indrajit Gupta—I was not here, but I have gone through his speech—has said that Government is not

[Shri Yogendra Makwana]

serious. The seriousness of the Government can be seen, not only from the statement of the Prime Minister, but the action which he has taken immediately after we noticed that the rain was less, and that it would create a problem. Right from April 1987, we had started taking action. In the latter part of my speech, I will give an account, as to how we had started, and what we have done so far. So, it is wrong to say on the part of the hon. Member that the Government is not serious on this issue.

One issue which we had raised, is that 2 million people in Rajasthan have not got the wages for two months. I tried to contact the State Government in the morning, because I read his statement only last night. I could not get information in detail. But the reason given is that we have provided them wheat; and instead of paying the wages in cash, they are fully paying wages in terms of wheat, i.e. in kind. The State Government has requested...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): It is inadequate.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: They have requested for more wheat also. As soon as I get the information from the State Government in detail, I will pass it on to the hon. Member for his information.

He wanted to know how many States have requested this time. Nearly ten States have already requested us for relief. Many are preparing their memoranda; but the Prime Minister has given an instruction to send teams of officers to assess the situation, and the teams have already left, and are there in some States. They are there.

One more thing which the hon. Member mentioned is very important; and it is only because of lack of information on the part of the hon. Member that he had asked what action had been taken by Government to enlist the cooperation of the public workers, organizations etc. The Prime Minister has recently written a letter to all the Chief Ministers, to Governors and Lt. Governors of Union Territories, and asked them to appoint a committee at the State level under the Chairmanship of the Chief Ministers, and another committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretaries. Then he has also said that all public workers and organizations also should be accommodated in this Committee.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Has it been done anyway?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: This is a letter written by the Prime Minister recently. The Prime Minister wrote a letter on the 14th of August. Instead of that, this is a 12-Point Programme for drought management by the Prime Minister. This 12-Point Programme has been listed and how it should be done It is mentioned that a full-time relief officer should be appointed. The Prime Minister had said about it long time back. Apart from this, in this paper, he has said, we should associate volunteer agencies and social workers; social workers include Members of Parliament, MLAs, member of the Panchayat, etc., with as many drought relief operations as possible. This is only to monitor the programme because there is a widespread complaint from Members of Parliament that the implementation is very tardy; it is not properly done. Therefore, the Prime Minister has impressed upon the State Administration, the Chief Ministers that they should appoint such a committee so that this committee can watch the situation. I was speaking about Prime Minister's 12-Point Programme for drought management This programme was given by the late Prime Minister, Shrimati India Gandhi; in that programme, she had specifically mentioned that a full-time relief officer should be appointed by the State Government Then about monitoring, she had mentioned about the monitoring machinery, how foodgrains movement should be regularised, how it can be stocked and how it should be made available to the vulnerable sections of the society.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Just now you mentioned that many hon. members complained about non-implementation of the programme. Now, you are reading from the direction given by the late Prime Minister. What does it lead to? You should tell us whether each of those points has been implemented anyway.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I just wanted to bring to the notice of the hon. members that it is not because that he has said about its implementation that we are doing it. It is a programme of the government and the programme of the government is to be implemented by the State Government. I was talking about a committee. (*Interruptions*) No running commentary. I am not going to yield to anybody. When I was telling about a committee, it is only because recently the Members of Parliament has said that they should be associated in the implementation of the programme; they can monitor the work. Therefore, the Prime Minister has given a direction to the State Governments to appoint such a committee and to associate them. So, this is what action government has taken. Otherwise, I don't want to enumerate all those points. (*Interruptions*).

One hon. member has said that loan advanced to the farmers should be waived. We are generally in such a situation where the government is converting the loan: the short-term loan given to the farmers is converted into a long-term loan; and by converting it, the farmers have to pay it after 2-3 years; and in a good year, they have to pay it. Therefore, the conversion process is going on. In 1987-88, Rs. 99 crores converted into a long-term loan; in 1986-87, Rs. 20.15 crores converted into a long-term loan. *(Interruptions)*

Regarding ecological imbalances, due to indiscriminate cutting of forests, the cover of the forests has depleted: and that is the reason why government has enacted. The Forests Conservation Act 1982. It is obligatory on the part of the State Governments—even if they want to put some irrigation schemes under the forest areas—to come to the Government of India for approval. In this programme, a massive afforestation programme is under NREP and other programmes. But in spite of this, the forest cover is inadequate; it should be 33.33 per cent, according to the Agricultural Commission, but it is not to that extent. It is nearly 80 per cent at present and much requires to be done in this direction.

My. hon. senior colleague and earlier Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Rao Birendra Singh mentioned about the norms, particularly the relief given for drought, relief given for flood, etc., should be on the same pattern. At present, it is not on the same pattern. He wanted that it should be on the same pattern. But as I said earlier, we are governed by the Eighth Finance Commission report. Because under the Constitution the Government of India appoints this Commission and the Government is to be guided by this Commission's report and in this Commission's report they have stated that the pattern of assistance which was there in the Seventh Finance Commission was adopted in the Eighth Finance Commission in the course of the lengthy arguments. They have given the arguments by the State Governments and by the different Ministries of the Government of India.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not allow. I cannot allow you to make a statement. What is the rule under which you are raising a point of order?

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Under Rule 376.

As we understood it before, the hon. Minister was intervening in the debate. We expected him to mention something which will facilitate the other Members to initiate some other points which we wish to raise. Secondly, I feel after intervention the

[Shri Ajay Mushran]

debate will continue and the hon. Agriculture Minister will finally reply to some of the points which the hon. Minister of State in his intervention does not reply.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. It is left to the Minister. There is no point of order.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: I want an assurance that the points.....

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: In my intervention in the debate, if there is anything left out or if there is some mistake, then my senior colleague the hon. Minister will make good in his reply. Whatever points I can reply to, I will reply, and the other points will be replied to my colleague.

I was mentioning about the relief expenditure...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): May I say one thing? Intervention means....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: May I request the members to take their seats? If you go on wasting time like this we cannot proceed. I want to give time to the others also.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: May I inform Mr. Mushran that what is meant by intervention is that the Minister of State will reply to some of the points and I will reply finally to all the other remaining points.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Everything in this debate is historic. As I said in the beginning my Ministry got not more than two days for discussion of the Demand for Grants, that is why we have got this six days' debate now. Therefore, I have intervened, ...(*Interruptions*)

I was informing the hon. Members about the norms of relief mentioned in the report of the Eighth Finance Commission. It is said there that this pattern in that report is the same which was there in the Seventh Finance Commission's report. It can be adopted by the Ninth Finance Commission also.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH (Mahendragarh): That is what I suggested, that the Ministry should write to the Ninth Finance Commission and change the pattern.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Not only Rao Birendra Singh, but there are other hon. Members who had also wanted the norms to be revised. Therefore, I had to reply. There is a provision that if there is a drought of rare severity then the Government of India is to assist the State to the full extent and if ceiling of expenditure exceeds five per cent of the total annual plan outlay, the assistance has to be given half as grant and half as loan and it is not adjustable against the Plan assistance of the State. So, there is an in-built provision in this Finance Commission report itself. But even then if there is any change required, then it can be done by the Ninth Finance Commission only. I can understand what the hon. Member Shri Rao Birendra Singh has said that the Ministry can represent to the Finance Commission, that I have taken note of.

Sir, in this letter of the Prime Minister, he has given a number of check points for the State Governments so that they can chat on various points and make arrangements for fodder, for drinking water and for foodgrain also. There is a provision as I said that we are providing relief to the State Governments not only by way of cash but by way of foodgrain, that is in kind also.

Sir, one hon. Member mentioned that we have to harness all our water resources, small streams, rivers, etc. The hon. Member Rao Birendra Singh wanted to know how far we have done in this regard. We have identified eleven thousand micro water sheds and the allocation made for 1987-88 for National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture is Rs. Fifty three crores—fifty per cent State and fifty per cent Centre. So far the work proposed in this regard—Land

Development 538.452 thousand hectares; Distribution of seeds cum Fertiliser 15,965; Distribution of improved agriculture implements 2,33,400. Then the distribution of improved seeds in quintals 4988 thousand and area to be covered outside the water shed 14,454 thousand hectares.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The point is that this is a very small amount. About Rs. 230 crores or Rs. 239 crores only has been provided for water and soil conservation programme in the whole Plan. So, the request is that you should ask for more because this is very important.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I agree with the hon. Member. Right from his time, we are requesting the Planning Commission for increase in the allocation and the allocation made by the Planning Commission for this is definitely less. We will again request the Planning Commission to give some more amount for this work.

There was a mention about the water grid project—that all the rivers should join with each other. The hon. Member Shri Shyam Lal Yadav mentioned that there is no water in the Ganges itself. Even if you join Ganga with Cauvery, it will be of no use. So, this is not the only point, but resource constraint is the major problem. The Government of India and the State Government also are feeling some difficulty so far as the resources are concerned because priorities had to be fixed. For this what priority should be given, that has to be decided by the State and Centre. We have accorded the highest priority. As I mentioned earlier, for irrigation we have increased the Plan allocation in the Seventh Plan than the First Plan period.

Then, one hon. Member mentioned that the farmers should be compensated for the loss due to no rain or less rain. There is no provision for compensating the farmers. There is only a provision to help the State Governments to mitigate the difficulties faced by the farmers. We help the farmers in providing employment. Because of no rain or less rain, the farmer has nothing to do in his field and he is free. Therefore, he requires some employment. That is provided by the Government of India. We give money to the State Governments to generate employment for the weaker sections and for small and marginal farmers, who are really in need of it. We give money to the State Governments for generating employment for 25 days in a month.

I have already touched upon irrigation. Apart from irrigation, there are other programmes like the Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, Augumented Resources of Water Supply programme, etc. All these programmes are meant for reducing the intensity of drought conditions because of less rains or no rains.

One hon. Member made a request that the crop insurance cover should be expanded and there should be more crops covered under the crop insurance scheme. The Government is examining this scheme. This is a new scheme which covers only those farmers who have taken loans. In kharif 8512 States have accepted this scheme. 23,25,649 farmers are covered under this scheme. And the area covered is 41,80,931. So there is a protection to the farmers by way of insurance though its scope is limited. This scheme requires some revision. A committee to go into that, has been appointed under the chairmanship of an Addl. Secretary.

Before I conclude my speech, I would like to tell the hon. Members how we started planning for this calamity. We started planning right from April, 1986-1987 i.e. before the onset of the monsoon which sets in round about 15th of May. We called the kharif conference of all the State Governments to discuss about the coming monsoon and we planned for it. In a kharif conference of the State Governments, we decide about the position of inputs, etc. Also we set up a crop weather watch group in my Ministry with IMD, Ministry of Water Resources and ICAR as members. This

[Shri Yogendra Makwana]

group initially was meeting every week. Now they meet every third day in Krishi Bhavan and make assessment of the rainfall and the monsoon situation and prepares crop plans and the contingent crop plans including mid-course corrections of crop plans to suit the aberrant weather conditions and to inform the States to take suitable steps to supply required quantity of seed also. On 29th June 1987 we had a meeting of all the Relief Commissioners of State Governments. In this meeting, we discussed the delayed monsoon and how to plan for the future contingency. Finally, we discussed, in detail the contingency plans which were prepared for each State, in the conference of Commissioners of Agriculture Production on 28th July, 1987. Now, we have set up a task force consisting of representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Water Resources and Indian Meteorological Department for monitoring the utilisation of available irrigation potential i.e. minor, medium and major in the country so as to ensure economy in the use of water for kharif and rabi crops and plan for meeting the seed requirements of next kharif i.e. 1988-89. A Crisis Management Group has also been set up in the Ministry just to handle the situation on war-footing. This Group consists of senior officers of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Rural Development and Ministry of Environment and Forest and has been set up for attending to the daily problems faced by the State Governments in providing relief. Over and above this, we have set up a Central Control Room in the Ministry of Agriculture and we have requested all the State Governments to set up control rooms at the State headquarters and at the district headquarter so that they can provide the information and tell us about the situation to enable us to take the corrective measures. After the Control Room has been set up, we have not received any information from the State Governments but we have already requested the State Governments to set up such control rooms at the district and the State levels.

So far as relief is concerned, I have the figures but I do not want to give the figures again and again because all the hon. Members know the extent to which the Government of India has helped the State Governments.

I would once again like to thank you for allowing me to intervene in this debate.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: I would like to tell the hon. Minister that a high level team of officers visited my district Mathura in a helicopter and they came back after surveying a village, without meeting any representatives of the people and the Gram Pradhan, whereas they should have talked to them.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You give it in writing.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. I am not allowing him.

*(Interruptions)***

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing on drought for the last six days and the hon. Minister has also intervened in this discussion. Drought has become a permanent feature and it has

**Not recorded.

taken the form of a monster and is causing a huge loss of human lives. Drought is not a new feature in our country and now it has engulfed all the parts of our country. Every year we face this problem in one or the other part of the country which adversely affects our economy and results in inflation and price rise. We discuss this problem every year in the House but this is not going to serve any prupose. It is true that we are prepared to give relief amounting to billions of rupees. The hon. Prime Minister has chalked out a 12 Point Programme for initiating relief measures but full attention has never been paid to check it permanently. Relief measures are helpful to the people to some extent but not in preventing drought. Even after spending such a large sum, people are not getting the benefit which they should have. The reason is that corruption has entered into the highest quarters. When such things take place, the interests of the people are compromised due to the corruption. Every Member who has been elected to this House should feel ashamed that discussion is taking place on drought for the last many years but even then we have not been able to check it permanently. The countries who got independence after our country have put to end this monster of drought. Why not we adopt their technique and programme to check the drought permanently. I would like to remind you that at the time of transfer of power on the night of 14-15 August 1947 when Bapuji was trying to pacify the communal frenzy at Baliaghat in Calcutta, he cautioned the Cabinet of the West Bengal saying that they were sitting on the thorns of power and they should save themselves from the irony of power because power corrupts but they were in the power to serve the poor in the country. But what Bapuji had thought at that time is no more now. Today the plight of the farmer is going on worsening day by day. They are losing interest in the agriculture because it is no more profitable. The people doing other jobs get compensation in case they suffer any loss but the farmer has never got any compensation for the loss he has suffered so far. He does not get any compensation for the loss he suffers due to natural calamities and other things. Therefore, the farmer is losing interest in the agriculture.

Drought and corruption have flourished in this country. This has given rise to terrorism, extremism and lawlessness in the country. We do not feel any pleasure in discussing on drought for so many days. We will have to find ways to put an end to this monster of drought for ever so that the farmer of this country constituting a majority of the population may be able to improve his lot. We will have to think over it seriously as how to ameliorate the condition of the poor and the farmer in the villages so that they need not migrate to cities. In short, I would like to say that we should formulate a scheme to prevent the recurrence of drought in this country for ever.

At present, oil is selling at Rs. 34 a kilo. Prices of vegetables are as high as Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a kilo. Prices of all the commodities have doubled and trebled. The people are not getting essential items and their life has become very hard. We will have to see all these things. Otherwise the country will have to face a more serious crisis. We have to save the country from this crisis.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BAPULAL MALVIYA (Shajapur) : Mr.Deputy Speaker, Sir, discussion has been going on the drought for the last 6 to 7 days. A number of hon. Members have expressed their views on it.

Sir, we will have to keep in mind five points while discussing on drought. The first is the problem of drinking water, second is foodgrain problem, third is the problem of farmers, fourth is the problem of agricultural labourers and fifth is the problem of cattle feed. So far as the problem of drinking water is concerned, it is very serious in Madhya Pradesh. The water level has gone so low that tube-wells and handpumps have become useless. Therefore, I would like that such tube-wells and handpumps should be installed

[Shri Bapulal Malviya]

which are suitable for drawing water from the depth There is a Government scheme to install at least one handpump in every village but sometimes that handpump goes out of order, I would request that if one handpump goes out of order another handpump should be installed and if that also stops working, a third one should be installed. The scheme to install a handpump in each village should be completed.

It has been seen that if water is not available in a village, the people of that village have to fetch water from another village. Therefore, such provision should be made that water is easily available to all. I would suggest that a Drinking Water Bank should be established in villages so that the villagers may get water without any difficulty.

So far as the farmers are concerned, their condition is really pitiable Continuous hailstorms in my area Shajapur and Dewas have made the life of the people miserable A good crop was expected but that has been destroyed by the hailstorms. This is what happened last year also. The farmers there are in distress. Fortunately when 40 M.Ps. belonging to Madhya Pradesh met Rajiv Gandhi and requested for financial help, he readily agreed and granted financial help and it produced good result.

There are two districts Shajapur and Dewas in my constituency. But only in one district 160 stop-dams were constructed for which 60 thousands labourers worked on daily wages. That provided work to the people and they got relief. Has there been rainfall this year, a number of farmers would have got the facility of water. A very good scheme i.e insurance scheme has been formulated for the farmers, but the priority given by the Government is wrong which should be changed. Insurance cover has been provided to those people who have taken loan from Co-operative Banks. All other persons have been left out and in this way the scheme has failed and it has not benefited anybody. The reason for this is that our Government has treated district level and tehsil level as one unit. I would like to suggest that instead of Tehsil level and District level, village Panchayat should be taken as a Unit so that farmers could get the benefit of the insurance. Therefore, there is a need to bring about a change in the present method of insurance.

So far as the question of agricultural labour is concerned, when farmers have good crop, the agricultural labour get good wages. I would like to suggest that with a view to ensure employment to the agricultural labourers, a large number of relief works should be undertaken so that the workers do not have to face starvation and migration to other places and they are able to feed their children and other members of their families. Therefore, it is very essential to pay attention towards them.

At present, cattle are facing two difficulties. The human beings may drink water at any place or may ask for water from any house, but the cattle cannot get water Availablility of water must be ensured for them. In addition to water, arrangements should be made to ensure availability of grass and fodder. Earlier the farmer used to give wheat straw free of cost, but now wheat straw is being sold at a rate of Rs 100 per quintal and one small bundle of grass is sold for one rupee each. As a result many farmers have left their cattle in the forests and a large number of cattle are dying and nobody is paying any attention You know that if the cattle die, from where the milk will come. It will not be available Therefore, the cattle should be taken care of and arrangements should be made to provide grass and fodder for them. Many factories are there to produce animal feed I would like to suggest that the Government should ask these factories to supply animal feed in the villages. It would also help in saving the cattle to a great extent Arrangement of animal fodder is very essential for the cattle.

In our area, there has been only 5 per cent rainfall against a normal rainfall of 25 per cent as a result of which Shajapur and Dewas are very badly affected by the drought. I would, therefore, request the Government that maximum funds should be provided for Shajapur and Dewas so that farmers, labourers and the cattle could be saved.

With these words, I would like to express my thanks to you for giving me time to speak.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I want to inform the House that Lunch Hour has been dispensed with for the current week from today. The House will sit late till 7 p.m. to finish discussions on drought and flood situation. If necessary, it will go to the extent further also because today we want to finish discussions on drought and flood situations. The Ministers are going to reply for both the discussions.

Now Shri I. Rama Rai.

SHRI I. RAMA RAI (Kasargode): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am really grateful to you for allowing me to participate in this marathon debate which is taking place for the last 5 days. The problem really is of national one but it mainly confines to the farmers of this country. The late Shri Krishna Menon once said: India is a rich country but inhabited by poor people. That is what we understand by this. The drought situation, we are not able to face it very boldly but we are confident of tiding over this problem because we have a buffer-stock of about 27 million tonnes in the godowns. That is enough to tide over this crisis. But the question is, when virtually no returns are expected this year, what will the farmers do next year? They have to face the problem next year also. This mighty problem is fully understood by the Government. The formation of a Cabinet sub-committee headed by the Prime Minister himself shows the seriousness of the problem. There is again a task force formed to consider the problems. The problems are divided into 4 groups to be tackled with. One is damage to crops; second is employment generation in rural areas; third is, food for the poor; and fourth is, drinking water and fodder.

I have a special problem in Kerala which is entirely depending on plantations. (*Interruptions*).

My humble submission is that this country may be one but there are different States. But if you take district-wise or constituency-wise, we have different problems in different constituencies. For example, especially in my constituency, I am telling you the problem of the growers of arecanut. The hon. Members might have heard arecanut but they may not be knowing how it is grown in the Northern most end of the Kerala State. This particular crop will be completely wiped out due to the present drought which is prevailing. Even the previous droughts have affected very badly the arecanut growers. I want to point out the difficulties of these growers to the Agriculture Minister. Unfortunately both the Ministers are not here. Only the Rural Development Minister is here. Any way, I want to point out the difficulties of the arecanut growers in my constituency. Again there are plantations like coconut, arecanut, pepper, ginger and everything. All these plants will be affected by this drought. The question is, the affected cultivators will lose not only this year crop, but they will lose the entire plantation for another 4 or 5 years, as their plantations would be affected. For five years, he has to look after himself. He has to develop the garden. He has to do all the things regarding his livelihood and development. That aspect must be considered especially for the drought-affected area of Kerala.

My State is a State which depends for electricity entirely on hydro-electric projects. In a normal year, the rivers of Kerala discharge about 72,000 million cubic metres of water. But only 5% of that water is used for hydro-electric projects and for

[Shri I. Rama Rai]

agricultural purposes. The rest of the water is simply let off to the sea. The present Government there have a programme of having small dams, about 600 in number, a series of small anicuts across rivers one or two metres high to retain sufficient water in the valleys after the monsoon. Already some Members have said that the rivers are filled up with silt in Kerala especially the water is drained out underground. The silt is there and sand is there. We cannot get water in the bed of the river. We have dams to prevent the under water flow. This aspect must be studied and proper encouragement, if necessary, must be given to any State Government to prevent this under water flow.

Especially during this monsoon season, we are supposed to have full water in the reservoirs of hydro-electric project. But this year, you can understand our problem. Current is cut off for two to three hours a day. Load shedding is there to the tune of 40%. It is already announced. Just imagine what will be our fate after the monsoon season. All these problems are man-made problems.

Because of the indiscriminate cutting of trees by people greedy after money with the connivance of departmental officials and of even politicians, forests are wiped out in Kerala, especially in the valleys, usually green valleys where the gardens are raised and arecanut gardens, coconut gardens and plantains and everything are grown. These valleys are now without any forest. They are almost dry. That is the problem. We have to go in detail into the causes of the denudation of forests and trees.

As regards the land problem, there are many Boards and many development activities of agriculture are to be taken up but the farmers are not taken into confidence. Neither the farmers advice is taken nor the farmers' involvement is made. I am also one of the Members. But I see the Chairman is a retired army man or a retired IFS man. This Chairman and the Members are not at all connected with agriculture. How can they guide the farmers of this country? I heard about the Wasteland Development Board. Recently the Chairman has gone abroad to study the problems of farmers! It is common knowledge that there are multitudes of poor people in this country to be fed and to be employed. There are poverty alleviation schemes. These lands can be given for lease for 20-25 years. Then, they can raise forest plantations etc. Instead, it seems that the lands under the control of these Boards are going to be given to Tatas and Birlas for industrial purposes and industrial development etc. This is the sad plight of the farmers of this country. I do not want to take much time of the House because the opening speakers themselves have covered almost all the points which have to be answered. But why we are insisting on our participation is that we must show that we have sympathy for our brothers, for our voters and for the people of our constituency. That is why we are insisting on our participation. We are also trying to highlight the problems of our constituency. I think the hon. Minister will try to understand my problems. I would request the Minister to try to understand the problems of the farmers of this country. Finally, I would like to give one example i.e. if you ask as to what is labour pain, all of us and all male labourers can explain. But actually, it will be explained only by a woman who has given birth to children. That is the thing, what I am telling here. Only, farmers can highlight the present problems and the future problems.

DR CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) What do you mean by labour pain here? Will you please explain what is the labour pain is it that is being realised by a pregnant lady?

SHRI I. RAMA RAI: That pain will be explained only by mothers. I am not attacking any member. But the point is that the farm members ought to be given the first chance to explain their dificulties. Any-

way, I thank you again for having given me this chance.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the present drought has affected even those States and the areas which have never been affected by drought, in the past. The hon. Minister has stated that 280 districts are affected by drought, I would like to urge that the State Governments should be asked once again whether some more districts have not been affected by drought. Uttar Pradesh Government has reported that 50 districts in the State are affected by drought. It has been observed that out of the districts left out by the State Government, one or two districts are such where there has not been any rainfall in the last week of July or in the beginning of August. These two districts are Almora and Pithoragarh which are facing a serious drought and which have not been included in the list of drought affected districts by the State Government of U.P I would request the hon. Minister that he may kindly convey our feelings to the U.P. Government so that these districts may be treated as drought-affected districts.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all of us are very grateful to the hon. Prime Minister for announcing, while addressing the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort, that the Government would make all efforts to deal with the situation and no person would be allowed to suffer due to drought. These words of the hon. Prime Minister has created a sense of satisfaction in the nation and in all the people. Now there is a challenge which is to be met by the Ministry of Agriculture by activating itself. Because when a slogan of green revolution was raised in the country, the Ministry of Agriculture and the people connected with it had done a lot of good work and had raised the honour of the country. But now it appears that so much dedication and awakening is not there in the Ministry of Agriculture. The hon. Minister of Agriculture and his Ministry would have to give same slogan once again to awaken the Departments under their control, because the drought which has occurred this time, is likely to have its effect on the ensuing crops also. It has become very difficult to depend on the weather due to its uncertainty. The weather has failed us at the time of Kharif crop. If such a situation continues at the time of two or three more crops, we will not be able to bear that misfortune. I would like to submit that the Ministry of Agriculture should prepare a comprehensive credit Policy of this purpose. Besides, a programme should also be formulated under which maximum number of crops could be grown in Punjab and Haryana where facilities of irrigation exist. In Punjab, the farmers are going in for cash crops which are more beneficial and they are not paying that much attention to the production of wheat and rice. We will have to check such a tendency. The present buffer stock of foodgrains appears to create a sense of satisfaction and it is an effective method to check inflation, but if the buffer stock continues to deplete, then it would have adverse effect on the situation of inflation and our difficulty can increase. I would, therefore, request the hon. Agriculture Minister that more facilities should be provided to the farmers of Punjab in regard to production of wheat and rice. Water should be provided in the areas where irrigation facilities are not available through better water management. Apart from that, such good quality seeds should be provided to farmers which require less water. Such information and other means should be made available to them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these days people are gradually migrating to the cities after deserting the villages, because job opportunities are not available in the villages. The migration of population from villages to cities would add to the problems in cities. Therefore, I would urge the hon. Agriculture Minister that he should make a declaration that every umemployed person in the villages would be provided employment there itself and for this purpose, one or the other construction work would remain under execution continu-

[Shri Harish Rawat]

ously for a period of six months so that every person could get a job there. Unless such a declaration is made and necessary arrangements for this purpose are made, we would not be able to check the migration of population to the cities.

At present, the farmers are compelled to buy fodder at a rate of Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 per quintal. Fodder banks should be opened at Block level and fodder should be made available to fodder centres like Fair Price Shops, otherwise the poor farmers would be compelled to sell their cattle at half the price The sources of water have dried up at various places specially in hilly areas. The situation there is that there are no rivers and whatever rivers are there, they flow through deep valleys and water is available from very small sources which have also dried up Therefore, special arrangements should be made to provide drinking water there. The State Governments should provide special help to such areas so that the people in these areas could face the situation.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir the drought has adversely affected Kharif crop and it is also likely to affect the Rabi crop also I would like to request the hon Minister to take steps in advance to ensure a good Rabi crop Such seeds should be provided which may yield good production, because Kharif crop has already been destroyed and Rabi crop is also likely to be destroyed Therefore good quality seeds and necessary funds should be made available to the farmers from now itself The condition of farmer is very pitiable Therefore, unless relief is provided to them in the payment of Government loans it is not going to serve the purpose. The moratorium in the repayment of State Government loans is not going to improve their condition What is required today is that interest on loans given by co-operative societies or that on loans given by Banks under I R D.P for at least one year should be borne by the Central Government

At present, wheat and rice are supplied to the consumers through the Fair Price Shops, but keeping in view the drought situation, the prices of edible oils and pulses are likely to go up, therefore, with a view to check the hoarding on such occasions, all essential commodities of daily use should be supplied through the Fair Price Shops. You may please chalk out a strategy for this purpose alongwith the Minister for Civil Supplies.

Similarly, electricity and diesel should be made available to the farmers after effecting a cut in the quota of industrial sector. This is a huge task and for providing employment and cheap essential commodities, it is certain that funds will be equired for this work. We know that the Government is facing financial constraints, but there are certain jobs like organising cultural fairs and conferences by various departments, Ministries, the expenditure on which may be considered necessary under normal circumstances, but at a time when the country is facing severe drought, when the whole country is about to face famine, when the country is facing an adverse situation, then cuts should be made in such expenses and the funds should be made available to combat natural calamities This will arouse a feeling amongst the farmers that the Government is with them not only in words but also in deeds Until and unless we take long term measures to fight drought, we will not be able to get rid of famine. It is, therefore, necessary that meaningful changes may please be affected in our forest policy The manner in which our forest policy is being pursued, the manner in which the Waste Land Development Board is functioning and also the manner in which Social Forestry Programmes are being implemented by State Governments, we are only doing paper work which is not going to serve the purpose We do not plant trees with broad leaves which can be utilized as fodder, but we plant such trees which soak underground water. For example, a large number of eucalyptus and gum trees have been or are being planted in our area which do not

create condition favourable for rainfall. It is my submission that under the forest policy we may plant trees with broad leaves so that they may maintain dempness in the earth and also attract the clouds. An ordinary farmer understands this thing very well, but the Scientists and Experts of the department are not trying to understand it. Therefore, I would like to state that we are spending crores of rupees on forestry programmes, but we are not getting matching benefit therefrom because the amount is not being utilised properly. In order to ensure its proper use for the country, we will have to think deeply. The reason for this is that where there can be plantation in a natural way, we are wasting money there and where there is an actual need to implement forestry schemes and priority is required to be given for afforestation, no attention is being paid towarrds it. This is also my complaint.

Seventy per cent of the total cultivable land in our country is unirrigated land. Efforts should be made to bring this land under irrigation for which schemes should be formulated. It is, therefore, necessary that instead of laying much stress on construction of big dams, which take longer time, we should undertake small irrigation schemes on priority basis. On several occasions rain water is accumulated and preserved in pits in our villages and later put to use in producing vegetables. Attention of our agricultural scientists does not go to that side. Our State Governments, who are responsible to execute minor and medium irrigation projects, also do not pay attention towards it. I would like to urge that directions may be issued to the State Governments asking them to fix a target for bringing certain area of unirrigated land under irrigation. We will have to consider over it seriously right from now.

Lastly, in short, I would like to submit that our various Ministries perform only one type of work whereas all the Ministries should have a collective strategy. All the Ministries should sit together and chalk out a strategy so that the people may feel that at a time when the country is facing drought all over and the people are terrified, the Government have come forward to their help and to share their distress. For this purpose the Ministry of Agriculture will have to do some concrete works and show to the nation that they stand beside the poor villagers and drought striken farmers not only in words but also in deeds.

*SHRI SHRIHARI RAO (Rajahmundry): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir at the outset I thank you for giving me an opportunity to take part in this important discussion.

Sir, it is our good fortune that the nature has conferred a bouty on us. Geographically speaking, there are few countries on the earth which can match us in the natural resources. Many of our rivers are perennial rivers. There is plenty of water in our rivers throughout the year. I am not able to understand why we have failed to utilise the perennial rivers for our benefit. I am posing the question to the Govt. as to why no effort has been made so far to utilise our water resources. Many countries which have become independent much after us, have made enormous progress though they have fewer resources when compared to us. It speaks volumes for their capable planning. The main reason why those newly independent countries are far ahead of us is that they have succeeded in harnessing their resources with remarkable efficiency. But how about us? The country has had already 40 years of independence. Even after these 40 years of independence, we have failed miserably to provide drinking water either to our villages or the towns and cities in the country. This is one achievement! In such circumstances can we call ourselves independent? What are our achievements for which we can take pride? Mere political independence will not do. The real independence lies in our economic independence. Mere political imdependence has no meaning if we are not indepndent economically. Economic independence is the real independence. We have failed miserably in attaining economic freedom. Our defective planning has let us down in becoming economically independent. Though we

*The speech was originally delivered in Telegu.

[Shri Srihari Rao]

can boast of plenty of resources, it is the defective planning which is responsible for our poor development. Newly emerged nations have perfectly planned their economy. Hence they are much ahead of us and are in the forefront of developed nations. We, on the other hand planned miserably and failed miserably. We too have a Planning Commission. But our Planning Commission has no clear perspective of priorities to be accorded. Our Planning Commission does not know which should be accorded priority. The Planning Commission has no grasp of the prevailing situation and of the items to be taken up priority basis. This is one reason why our country could not develop as much as we desired. Hence the Planning Commission should take responsibility for the poor progress the country made so far.

Sir, droughts and floods are the bane of our economy. Bad planning is responsible to a great extent for this sad state of affairs. Every year thousands of crores of rupees are being spent on the relief measures during the drought and floods. It shows that the Govt. and Planning Commission are interested only in the remedial measures rather than the preventive measures. It is like digging a well when the house is already on fire. When the situation assumes uncontrollable proportion, the Govt. comes forward to spend thousands of crores of rupees on relief measures. It shows that the Planning Commission are lacking foresight. They cannot anticipate the situation that the nation may have to face in the future. If they had the vision, they could have foreseen the droughts and floods and prepared several schemes to avert them. But they lack the vision. Had they spent a part of the amount that has already been spent on short term measures and relief measures, perhaps there would not have been any drought in the country today.

Sir, irrigation Ministry is an important Ministry. Only those who have the grasp and thorough knowledge of the subject must be in charge of this Ministry. But it is misfortune that all along, this important Ministry has been in the hands of the persons who did not have any basic knowledge of this portfolio, Irrigation Ministers should always be very competent persons who can deliver the goods. Sir, our irrigation Ministers should know which are the perennial rivers and have excess of water that can be diverted to other rivers which go dry during the lean months. They should know which rivers have to be connected so that certain areas can be saved from floods while other areas starving for water can be saved from drought. But the successive Ministers incharge of irrigation have not thought on these lines so far. The rivers which have excess water should be linked with the rivers with lesser flow. All the important rivers from Ganga upto Kavery in the extreme South should be linked with one another. 65% of the cultivable land can be brought under irrigation if these rivers are connected. In this connection one has to recall the invaluable services of Dr. K.L. Rao rendered to the country. He was a genius and internationally known expert on the subject. He prepared a Plan to link Ganga with Kavery after a thorough study. Ganga-Kavery link is the answer to droughts and floods in many areas of the country. But, it is most unfortunate to hear from the present Minister for water Resources that this Plan is not viable. I do not see how it is nonviable. Everyone in this country is interested in development of our country. During the past 40 years man thousands of crores of rupees were spent on combating drought and flood. Even then, we could not solve the problem permanently. Droughts and floods are regular features. Sir, out of the 40 years, the Congress had been in power for 38 years. Hence it has to take all responsibility for this kind of lopsided planning. Had a part of amount that has been spent on short term measures been spent on project like Ganga-Kavery link, we could have got rid of drought permanently. If we link Ganga with Mahanadi, Mahanadi with Godavari, Godavari with Krishna and finally Krishna with Kavery droughts and floods can be averted. It is gigantic task no

doubt but certainly not non-viable. We can avert both floods and droughts in many parts of the country. Irrigation facility can be provided to millions of acres of cultivable land. You can control both floods as well as drought. The necessity to spend thousands of crores of rupees every year won't arise. Who should be held responsible for ignoring such kind of important projects? Is it not our lopsided planning? Is not our Planning Commission responsible for not taking up such vital projects? Is it not the Congress rule at whose behest the Planning Commission decides priorities responsible and for neglecting such projects? The Congress Govt. should have self introspection. This kind of lopsided Planning should be done away with if the country has to progress and prosper.

As far as our State Andhra Pradesh is concerned, the Central Govt. must admit that it is singularly neglecting us right from the beginning. There are as many as 15 projects pending before the Central Govt. for clearance. Not even a single project has been cleared so far. Neither the Central Govt. takes up the execution of the projects nor allow the State Govt. to execute them. What is the reason? There is a saying in Telugu. It is like the mother who neither provides food nor allows to beg. Similarly, neither the Central Govt. takes up these projects as national projects nor allows the State to take them up. If the Centre permits, we will construct the projects on our own. Projects like Polavaram and Telugu Ganga are very important projects. We could have completed all these projects in time and even supplied drinking water to our Tamilian brothers in Madras, had you only cleared these projects. The entire area would have been prosperous by now. Rayalaseema would have been saved from the drought. Polavaram project would have benefited a long stretch of land from my district, East Godavari upto Srikakulam. We could have provided water to the prestigious steel plant at Vizag. But nothing has taken place so far. Reason? Neither the Central Govt. has taken up this project nor allowed the State to construct it by according clearance early. Who is responsible for this kind of dilly dallying, in taking important decisions? The Central Govt. must hold itself responsible for this unhappy situation.

Sir, 19 out of 23 districts are reeling under acute drought. At a recently held meeting, the Charimen of Zilla Parishads had requested the State Govt. for an assistance of Rs. 193 crores and 95 lakhs. In addition ot this amount, nearly Rs. 90 crores are needed exclusively for providing drinking water. Such is the magnitude of the situation. The State Govt. has already spent Rs. 63 crores on the relief measures. But when our Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao has requested to the Prime Minister when he was on the tour of the State recently, for an assistance of Rs. 50 crores, the Prime Minister turned down the plea by saying that there are other States which require the money more urgently. It is most unfortunate to hear the Prime Minister to say so. Sir, the situation in Andhra Pradesh is very grim and hence I appeal to this Govt. to release immediately the required amount. I hope and trust the required money of Rs. 50 crores will be released immediately.

Sir, all along you have been concentrating only on short term measures to tackle droughts. There is adrought almost every year. It is a stupendous task to provide relief to the affected people. Hence I suggest that there should be an autonomous body exclusively devoted to monitor the relief measures undertaken in various parts of the country. This should be a permanent body. Wherever there is any drought or any other natural calamity, the Members of the Committee can visit the area immediately and can take necessary steps to help them without any loss of time. This body would ensure prompt relief to affected people. Now there is an inordinate delay in providing relief. Oftentimes, the Govt. blames the State Govts. for the delay in sending the report. If this body is set up, time will not be wasted as the Committee itself monitors the situation. The Committee should have the dual responsibility to find necessary funds required for relief

[Shri Srihari Rao]

operations and also to forecaste droughts either due to late arrival or failure of monsoon in different States of the country. Sir, there were floods in my State last year. There was a heavy loss of both life and property. Farmers had to face many difficulties. Standing crop worth crores of rupees has been lost. But the crop insurance claims have not so far been settled. Already one year is over. Not even a single farmer insurance claim in my constituency in East Godavari district has been settled so far. I want to know why the crop insurance claims of our farmers have not been settled so far and when are they going to be settled.

Sir, 40 years ago we became independent. We could not achieve much in these years of planning. I want to cite an example just to show how faulty our planning system is. In Delhi, the very Capital city of India there is an acute shortage of drinking water. In our MPs flats the supply of water is very restricted. We get water upto 9 O' clock in the morning and then after 5 in evening. Similarly, there is a power cut during the afternoon hours. Essential commodities are in short supply. The prices of all the commodities have shot up. If this is the pc sition in Delhi, one can well imagine the pc sition of the poor people in remote areas of this country. Who are going to take care of their needs? Where did we fault in our earlier plan? The entire functioning of the planning calls for a thorough revision. Sir, an autonomous body with all the powers should be set up to monitor the work taken up during the droughts and floods, on a permanent basis It should also be provided with necessary funds in order to effectively discharge its functions.

Sir, the river Godavari flows through my district but it is a tragedy that there is a drought in Burugupudi and Kadiyam assembly constituencies which come under my parliamentary constituency. There is an acute shortage of water in that area. There is no water even for the live stock. It is a tragedy that an area which is quite closer to river Godavari suffers from an acute shortage of drinking water. Polavaram project is the remedy for these ills. The situation will improve only when the Polavaram project comes up. During the last 40 years not even a single project from Andhra Pradesh has been taken up as a national project. I want to know why? At least now, for heavens sake, clear the Polavaram project. If you do not take up the project on your own, at least accord sanction to the project. Please clear Polavaram project early. We will execute it on our own and make our State prosperous. We will tackle the drought situation in our State on our own and work for the wiping out drought once and for all. Sir, I thank you once again for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*SHRI U.H. PATEL (Bulsar): Mr Speaker, Sir, in my speech I shall narrate the plight of my area stricken by drought and give some suggestions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a poem in our Gujarati literature which depicts the plight of the world if rain fails I also remember a few lines of this poem which are as follow

Nadi Nala Sukai Chalyan,
Gavladi deshe Shaap,
Novyo Dharati No Dhani Mahulre.

(It means that rivers and rivulets have dried up, distressed will utter curse, still the emperor of the earth, the rain has not come so far.)

Exactly the same situation we are facing today

During the course of the discussion, several hon Members have expressed their concern over the drought and given their suggestions. Therefore, in order to avoid repetition and discussion on the same

* The speech was originally delivered in Gujarati

points, I would, simply like to say that I fully support their points.

I would like to express my gratitude to the hon. Prime Minister for giving an assurance to the people of the country from the rampart of the historical Red Fort to the effect that nobody in the country would be allowed to starve due to drought. This assurance of the Prime Minister will arouse a new consciousness among the people to combat the drought.

The condition of Gujarat is several times more serious than that of other parts of the country hit by drought. The Chief Minister of Gujarat has said that 80% of the crops in Gujarat has been destroyed due to drought. Keeping in view the above condition, the State of Gujarat may also be given cent per cent assistance as has been extended to other States to deal with the drought situation. The Government of Gujarat have demanded an amout of Rs. 187 crores which may please be generously granted fully.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem of drinking water is very grave especially in the Saurashtra region for which it is very essential to find a permanent solution. Our hon. Prime Minister has done a very commendable job by according his sanction to the Nurmada Project by means of which the problem of drinking water in the Saurashtra and Kuch regions of Gujarat can be solved permanently. I would, therefore, like to submit to the Government that concrete and effective steps may please be taken to complete this project as early as possible.

Southern Gujarat known as the land of Parasuram is a drought prone area but this time it has come under the grip of this alarming drought, seriousness of which cannot be imagined unless one sees it.

During one of my visits to my constituency, I heard a distress call by a seventy year old lady which violently disturbs my mind. She told me, "Son, we do not want food dishonestly without putting any labour. We want that work and foodgrains should continuously be made available to us to keep body and soul together. We expect this thing from you, please try to provide work and foodgrains to us." Even if some one is poor, he has a high sentiment of honesty in him. Though the situation is so adverse, they only want work to meet the same, they do not want help in the form of donations. They want to earn bread by dint of hard work. This sort of distress call reminds us our duties. That is why the Prime Minister have assured the people of the country on the Independence Day that every possible step would be taken to meet the situation. I also submit to the rich people of this country to donate liberally to meet this grave problem being faced by the country. At the same time one and all should try to fulfil their responsibilities wherever they are and whatever posts they hold.

In order to help the poor people of our country, we will have to implement all the drought relief works on a war footing. We will have to make our administration more vigilant so that we are able to meet this calamity. If any fault or inertia is found in our administration, we will have to take the most stringent steps to eradicate the same. People indulging in corruption, hoarding and black marketing may take undue advantage of such a situation. We will have to deal with these evils by remaining vigilant towards them.

Today prices of essential commodities are going on rising as a result of which the poor people are finding it difficult to keep body and soul together. Therefore, it is very essential to exercise some control over prices. For this, I would like to suggest to the Government that required foodgrains and other essential commodities may please be kept in the fair price shops and supplied to the needy people ensuring their proper distribution In order to ensure that the relief committees constituted at the district level and also the district administration discharge their responsibilities fully, both the Central and

[Shri U. H. Patel]

State Government may keep full vigil over them

It is requested that we all should play our role in the compaign launched on war footing by the Government.

Several saints, sanyasis and holy people live in this country. In such a situation in the country, they used to please the rain God by performing Yajnas. They may also come forward to perform such acts with due reverence and pray to God to be benigned to us to make rain in this grave situation.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the drought problem being faced by us is the biggest problem of this century and it should be viewed with human outlook. I was very much distressed when the hon. Members of opposition charged us the other day that we wanted to take political advantage of this drought situation. Our hon. Members have gone to the extent of saying that Bofors issue has not been given any priority over the drought issue. It is my request to you that this human problem may be viewed with a collective outlook instead of a political outlook and measu es be taken to meet this situation unitedly by our volunteer institutions, political parties and the Government by rising above party politics We have been discussing on drought in this House for the last few days and our Prime Minister has taken this grave problem seriously but the Agriculture Minister is not present in this House. Shri Yadav, hon. Minister of Rural Development is sitting here. Whether Minister of Petroleum, Minister of Energy, Minister of Power or Minister of Finance is present, this grave problem should be solved collectively.. ..

AN HON. MEMBER: The Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation is sitting.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: May be that there may arise a need to drop food by aircraft, our Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation is present here..... (*Interruptions*).... He has made efforts. Therefore, I have already told that this should not be viewed with a political outlook..... (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to suggest that both long term and short term measures should be taken for dealing with the drought situation. The short term measures should deal with ways and means to tackle the droughts and to save the Kharif and Rabi crops. This time the Kharif crop has almost been distroyed. The long term measures should deal with deforestation, environment, use of water resources. Even the water available in abundance in coal mines should also be lifted for irrigation purposes.

13. 50 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Small dams should be constructed at the earliest to provide water for cattle and to maintain the water level. We regret that we have been raising this issue since many years but the Government is not viewing the situation with required seriousness and it is due to this reason that to-day the country is facing the worst drought. Until all the Ministers holding charge of Irrigation, Forests, Agriculture, Energy, Environment, Food and Petroleum sit together and discuss the situation and also consider the suggestions given by the hon. Members in this regard, this problem cannot be tackled. Along with it, relief works should be monitored by the Government to ensure that the right people get the benefits of the programmes.

Flood water should be controlled and diverted to the drought prone areas. In addition, small hydel plants should be set up to generate power, and the water of these plants should be properly utilised.

The biggest problem arising out of this drought situation will be that of migration of labour and cattle. This is a complicated situation and requires special attention

Another essential point to be considered is that of our food stocks and availability of raw material. If raw material is in short supply then it will become more expensive. Under such circumstances, land revenue and irrigation tax should be waived. There are some areas like our Chhattisgarh in Madhya Pradesh where the farmers have not been able to pay irrigation tax for the last 20 years. How can they pay the taxes when they are not getting water for their fields? I want that fresh loans should be given after waiving the irrigation tax. If the farmer is a defaulter he cannot get the benefits of the new credit policies of the Government. *(Interruptions)* You are talking of ceiling. I want to say that all farmers are farmers regardless of whether they are big or small. However no attention should be paid towards those farmers who own farm houses.

In this context, I want to draw your attention specially to dry farming. We have been talking about dry farming since long but so far no one is conversant with it. *(Interruptions)*

There is an acute shortage of water today. It is going to become more acute in the days to come. This might lead to an outbreak of all sorts of diseases in an epidemic form. I want to draw the attention of the Government towards it and asks them to be ready to counter this challenge in advance. The Central Government should set up cells at the Central, State, District and Block levels to monitor the situation.

I want to submit one more point. In order to initiate relief measures, Central Government is giving ad-hoc grants to the States. The Centre should inform the States as to how much amounts are going to be sanctioned so that the State Governments can plan accordingly. Today you give Rs. 5 crores, tomorrow you give Rs. 10 crores and then again you give Rs. 5 crores. This results in misuse of funds. Due to the lack of proper planning, the amounts are not utilised properly. The amount of ad-hoc grants proposed to be given to the State Governments should be decided right now so that the States can prepare definite programmes to deal with the drought situation effectively.

So far as providing employment to the agricultural labour is concerned, labour is required for desilting our old reservoirs so that their capacities for holding water increase and the farmers are able to get water for their fields.

It is very difficult for the Government to deal with natural calamities all alone, it is therefore necessary that the services of the private sector should also be involved in this field. The amount of subsidy now being given for setting up tube-wells should be increased. Deep tube-wells should be sunk for collective use in the cooperative sector. Regarding those small and poor farmers who cannot afford to buy diesel pump sets, should be supplied with the same free of cost. The old pumpsets should also be got repaired wherever necessary. Until the Private Sector is encouraged to contribute in this work, you will not be able to deal with the drought situation effectively.

Finally, I would like to quote an old poet,

"Rahiman pani rakhiye, pani bin sab soon.

Pani gaye na ubaro moti manas choon."

We should take the water crisis seriously and save every drop of water. We should not view it from a political perspective. Thanks.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are expressing our concern over the prevailing drought situation in the country and truly speaking, we have never seen a drought of this magnitude in the past. It is being said that the present drought is the severest in this century. However, natural calamities like floods and droughts are regular features of our country. In my opinion and also in the opinion of several other hon. Members, the Government should consider the situation seriously and take con-

[Shri Jagdish Awasthi]

crete measures to meet the drought situation effectively and provide relief assistance to the farmers and landless labourers. The flood waters should be stored and utilised for irrigation purposes and in this way both droughts and floods can be controlled. Such schemes should be prepared simultaneously. I want to request the hon. Minister that in order tc tackle the drought situation both short term and long term schemes should be formulated and implemented.

The entire Northern India is in the grip of drought. The Government tubewells installed in the country are not in working order and the water level of the private tubewells has gone down very much. I want to tell the hon. Minister that the Government tube-wells are being misused. These are lying idle due to mechanical defects or due to power shortage. In rural areas of Kanpur District alone 70 per cent of the Government tube-wells are lying idle. Even the private tube-wells are also lying idle because the water level has gone down. There are no arrangements for irrigation. The same is the condition of canals. Water does not reach the tail end in the canals and Kanpur city is situated at the tail end. There are several hudrants there but water does not reach there. It is the Government's duty to see that water is made available wherever canal water is not available for irrigation. Until we take measures on war-footing we will fail to deal with the situation. Again, as we see that water is not available for irrigation, similarly, there is an acute shortage of drinking water in rural and urban areas. Kanpur city is facing an acute shortage of potable water. The water level of the 30 or 35 tubewells owned by the Government has gone down sharply and adequate quantity of water is not available there. The river Ganga has receeded very far and efforts are being made over the years to implement the Ganga Dam Project but we have not been able to implement it so far. I want to request the hon. Minister to leave aside this project at present and make efforts to construct a 15 to 20 km. long canal near Bithur from where the main stream of the Ganga goes to Unnao. In this way we will be able to bring water near the Ghats and this will solve the problem of drinking water permanently in Kanpur and also the pilgrims and the local people will be able to take bath at the Ghats. I want that the Government should pay attention to this aspect. The hon. Minister of Water Resources is not present here now and I want to see him to formulate such a scheme.

Man can express his problems somehow but the cattle are mute and cannot express themselves. Today there is neither fodder nor water for them and they are dying for want of the same. I want to request that relief should be provided to them as well. Fodder should be made available for them as foodgrains are made available for the people. Buffer stocks of fodder should be maintained in the country so that it can be supplied during an hour of crisis. Today we find that the cattle in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and in all other regions are dying due to drought. It is hoped that appropriate arrangements will be made for them. The relief works under execution at present are inadequate

14.00 hrs.

In order to provide employment to the landless workers, a scheme should be formulated at least under every Nyaya Panchayat. Landless workers are spread all over the country and you should provide employment to all these people so that they are able to earn their livelihood as they have no source of income. The Central Government should provide necessary assistance to complete and expedite the works lying pending in those areas. The rules about granting relief were framed during the British period and have become obsolete, which now should be changed. The present drought is unprecedented and the Government should pay special attention to it. The State Governments should be directed to observe financial discipline. It has been seen that funds are not utilised for the purpose for which they are allo-

cated with the result the programmes remain incomplete. I want to request the Opposition Governments in the States to observe financial discipline. The Centre should be vigilant about State Governments which are not utilising the funds properly. It is necessary for both the Central and the State Governments to observe financial discipline. This money belongs to the country and every paisa should be spent on the welfare of the people.

Committees should be constituted at the constituency level for the implementation of relief programmes and the M.P., M.L.As and Block heads should be associated with them. All relief works should be monitored through the representatives of the people. It will not only ensure involvement of the representatives of people but also help in exercising control over those officials who do not pay adequate attention towards implementation of the relief works. Today almost the entire country is affected by drought. The State Governments should be directed to ensure that tution fee of the wards of people affected by droughts is remitted. If the outstanding loans cannot be written off, at least then recovery should be postponed for a minimum period of 2 to 3 years. The farmers in my area had taken loans tc install pumpsets 15 years ago but they are only paying the interest the rate of which is very high. A scheme should be framed in consultation with the commercial banks whereby those farmers who have not so far repaid the loans, should be exempted from payment of interest on the loans given for buying pumpsets.

Like other hon. Members, I want that the schemes relating to drinking water supply and other relief measures should be prepared with a view to meet such natural calamities effectively in future.

SHRI ASHKARAN SANKHAWAR (Ghatampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a difference between the roles of politics and nature in dealing with the drought in the country. Under the present political set up if we take right decision at this hour of drought, it would be a good thing. The Government should provide electricity to the rural areas at least 15 hours daily. The Government has provided means of irrigation through canals, tube-wells but about 70 per cent tube-wells are lying out of order. When the Officers in charge of tube-wells are contacted, they give the plea that there is a shortage of power and when the power department is contacted, they say that as the motor is old so it is not able to take the load. These are lame excuses. In this hour of drought I would request that the officials of the Power Department and the Irrigation Department should jointly formulate a programme to combat the drought situation successfully. If possible, the local M.L.As and M.Ps can be associated with it. They should check tube-wells in a week or in 4 days wherever they are found out of order and get them repaired immediately. Water of three divisions namely Etawah, Fatehpur and Kanpur reaches rural areas in Kanpur but as Kanpur is situated at the tail end, so only 15 to 20 per cent water of the three divisions is used for irrigation purposes. Besides this, the irrigation department releases water during summer for hardly two to three months in the canals that pass through villages. Also there are at least 2 thousand breaches through which the people are able to steal water from the canals. I would request that the officers concerned should be asked whether they are aware of these breaches through which water is being stolen by the people and if so, whether they have ever reported this matter to the police station. What I mean to say is that although they know that there are breaches and water is being drawn from the canals in an unauthorised manner yet they do not report the matter to the Police Station. I would request that the report should be called for and arrangement should be made to check this theft of water.

Another thing is that the canals are not desilted as long as 2 years as a result of which there is siltation as high as 3 feet and the water flows only one or two feet above.

[Shri Ashkaran Sankhawar]

In spite of this it is said that canals are running with full capacity and this is shown in the papers. I would request that all the canals should be got desilted in Kanpur so that more water flow there and water is available to the farmers for irrigation purposes.

Most of the tube-wells in our area are lying out of order. Water from the Ganga, the Yamuna and other rivers should be lifted for irrigation purposes. For example, there is a Amarhut Pump Canal in the Rajpur State Assembly Constituency which has been built this year at a cost of Rs. 12 crore. Similarly, a pump canal should also be constructed at Gureyan, survey of which had been conducted in 1962. A fresh survey in this regard should be conducted and a canal constructed there immediately. In the absence of canals in the Ghatampur Parliamentary constituency, there is no irrigation facility available there of which need is being felt for a long time. If the canal is constructed in that area, the irrigation problem of the farmers can be solved to a great extent.

In this hour of crisis when the poor landless workers are unemployed in a very large number, the funds which are made available by the Central Government and the State Governments for roads, education, canals, tube-wells etc., should be utilised in such a way that every agricultural labourer, unemployed and famine hit person may get relief because after the month of April the foodgrains dwindle in the stock of the farmers. Works on the Indira Awas Colonies should be undertaken. We feel that the funds allocated by the Government for different schemes are not being utilised properly and it is usually pocketed by some officers. In every assembly and parliamentary constituency, a committee consisting of MLAs, M.Ps and Block Heads should be formed to look into the problem relating to roads, irrigation etc. and to monitor the relief works. Only then something can be done for the welfare of the people.

In the end, I would like to say that there is a complicated problem of fodder, which should be solved in the interest of the cattle.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MOTILAL SINGH (Sidhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion has been going on the situation of drought for the last many days. Any natural and man-made calamity affect the lower and middle class mostly. The impact of the present drought in the country with be greatly felt by the poor and the farmer. There has not been any rainfall in Madhya Pradesh and a drought situation is prevailing in the whole state due to which farmers and labourers are perturbed. Providing relief to the people is the responsibility of either the State Governments or the Central Government. At present, there is need for providing drinking water to the rural areas on priority basis. There is neither any reservoir nor any river from where water can be provided to the people.

Water can be provided only through tubewells and hand pumps there. But today the situation is such that assistance given by the Central Government is not sufficient as to make arrangement of drinking water in the whole of Madhya Pradesh.

There are 45 districts in Madhya Pradesh covering a very large area. There are dry areas where the irrigation facility is totally negligible With these things in view there is need to provide more funds to Madhya Pradesh so as to enable the State Government to deal with the drought effectively. The farmers and the labourers are sitting idle and they have no work. The condition of their cattle is more miserable for whom water and fodder are required. A man can work anywhere and make arrangement for water and food but this is not the case with the cattle. So there is need to pay attention towards this aspect. There is a danger that the cattle may die in this drought situation and in future when there is rainfall, the farmer may not get oxen to plough the land and he may have to face a great difficulty.

Attention should be paid towards the relief measures being initiated in villages. The labourers should be provided wages in time otherwise their condition can worsen. You provide rice or wheat to the worker but do not provide that thing which he requires the most. The officers should be asked to ensure that no such a situation is created where workers have to starve and the people may not get an opportunity to say that workers are dying of hunger under the reign of this Government. There are large quantities of foodgrains in our country, there is no shortage of foodgrains, only it needs to be utilised properly. The foodgrains should be utilised properly so that no labourer may die of starvation.

So far as the problems of the farmers are concerned, I would like to submit that wherever water is available, the farmers should get electricity in time and wherever tubewells could be set up, immediate arrangements should be made to do the needful. There is need to provide more and more funds to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for this purpose. In the matter of natural resources, Madhya Pradesh is much ahead of the rest of the States. Besides coal and gold, diamond is also available there. Taking all these aspects into account, there is a need to pay more attention towards Madhya Pradesh. Like other States, Madhya Pradesh should also be provided with funds. You should not have an outlook that there is no special need to provide funds to Madhya Pradesh. Just as you are providing funds to Rajasthan for providing drinking water, Madhya Pradesh should also be provided funds to make provision for drinking water, because the condition of Madhya Pradesh is also serious. It is my submission to you that until and unless you pay a special attention towards the villages, the famine-like situation which has developed there will become more grave. Therefore, the people should not be given a chance to say that this Governemnt is incompetent to meet the situation caused by drought and famine. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that he should pay a special attention towards Madhya Pradesh and provide funds even more than demanded by that State Government for carrying out relief works there so that the State Government is able to meet the drought situation effectively.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has been a long discussion on drought. You can well imagine from this that how all the hon. Members in this House are concerned about it, otherwise on rare occasions such long discussions take place. I am grateful to the hon. Minister of Agriculture for giving his consent to let the hon. Members express their sentiments and views and agreeing to give his reply after listening to all the Members.

Our country, India is mainly an agricultural country where 80 to 82 per cent people live in villages. To-day the drought situation has made everybody uneasy. The farmer, the labourer, whoever it may be, when he looks at the sky, what does he see in the blue sky? He sees poverty, starvation and destruction. A ray of disappointment is seen on his face. My father-in-law's house is in Karautha village in district Rohtak. Choudhary Albel Singh, a resident of that village is 98 year old, the same age as of Badshah Khan. You know that at the age of 12, a person starts understanding everything. He said that he has never seen such a situation so far in his life. Drought and famine come hand in hand. If there is drought, there will be famine also. Now there has been no rain with the result that there is not at all any water in the reservoirs. I would like to tell you that amongst the dams, Pong dam is worst-hit. There is only 1.5 thousand million cubic meter water in Pong dam against its capacity of 7.12 thousand million cubic meters. You can well imagine the seriousness of the situation. The Govind Sagar reservoir behind Bhakhra provides irrigation facilities to Haryana and Punjab. Its position is somewhat better because there is 4.10 thousand million cubic meter water against its present capacity of 7.17 thou-

[Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma]

sand million cubic meter. Similarly there is 1/6th water of its capacity in Nagarjunasagar, 1/4th in Tungbhadra, 1/10th in Mettur. 1/12th in Krishnaraja Sagar, 1/4th in Hirakud, 1/12th in Balimala and 1/14th in Ramganga. Now you can imagine the condition of these reservoirs where electricity is generated and water is stored, but to-day, there is neither water in these reservoirs and no electricity can be generated there. This has made us uneasy. It is said *"Ram teri maya, Kahin dhoop, kahin chhaya."* In Bengal, Bihar and Tripura, floods have played havoc whereas in the remaining parts drought has made the life miserable. There used to be plenty of rainfall during the months of Shravana and Bhadra, but to-day even birds are suffering for want of rains. Dr. Tripathi says that peacocks used to dance at this time and the villagers used to enjoy this dance, but to-day peacocks are not seen.... *(Interruptions).....*

Now I want to refer to some figures of deficit rainfall during the first week of August. In Madhya Pradesh there has been 44 per cent downfall. There has been 636 mm. rainfall against 1124 mm. Similarly, in Gujarat, Assam, Dadra-Nagar Haveli there has been 49 per cent downfall and in Punjab it is 67 per cent downfall. If you look at the other side, you will find that there has been 215 mm. rainfall in place of 134 mm. in Arunachal Pradesh. In the gangetic West Bengal, there has been 100mm rainfall in place of 76 mm. In the sub-Himalayan West Bengal there has been 238 mm. rainfall in place of 117 mm. There has been 147 mm. rainfall in Bihar in place of 73 mm. You can see from the above statement that on the one side this is the situation and on the other, there is drought. Alongwith it as I have submitted that drought and famine go together. The country had faced drought and famine during the Mughal period relief camps were opened for the people. During the British regime, Bengal faced famine in 1770, the South faced famine in 1889. Thereafter Bengal again faced famine in 1943 which was not due to drought but due to the paddy crop being destroyed by insects. Then 30 to 50 lakh people lost their lives because the British Government was careless about it. But to-day Shri Rajiv Gandhi says that if anybody dies of starvation in the country, it will be a slur on the name of India.

While unfurling the tri-colour flag at the Red Fort, he promised that we will help and protect all the people in all respects.

Even after independence the country is facing drought. It may be recalled that there was drought from 1965 to 67 during which we had to import 18 million tonnes of wheat from U.S.A. It was that red wheat which was not fit for human consumption. Again the country faced drought in the year 1972-73. Mr. Chairman, Sir, at that time I happened to be the Revenue Minister of Haryana. I was assigned the duty to ascertain the requirements of the farmers after actually visiting them. Especially fodder for the cattle was a point for consideration. I used to go to the rural areas and ask them if they wanted casth or fodder. They would ask for fodder. We supplied fodder on subsidised rates and the people still recall this thing to-day. Therefore, we should chalk out programmes for supply of fodder. We have got 23.5 million tonnes of foodgrains in our godowns. It is good for the country that the Government is ours and not of the Britishers.

When fodder is not available in Rajasthan, Haryana has to face a difficulty when the cattle in lakhs from Rajasthan come to Haryana and Punjab. But to-day there is nothing in Haryana. I may tell you that there used to be 40 crores cattle heads in the country, their number might now have reached 70 to 80 crores which is equal to 50 per cent of human population. They require 130 million tonnes of fodder whereas there is a provision for only 40 million tonnes of fodder. In the month of January this year 12,000 cattle from the drought affected areas of Western Rajasthan entered the wild life

sanctuary of Ramgarh and destroyed the grass grown on 125 hectares of land. There is a saying *'Marata kiya na karata.'* Starvation forces man to commit all kinds of atrocities. Earlier to this, the people of Bharatpur had set ablaze the National park there and turned the grass on 108 hectare of land into ash. We should take some lesson from such incidents. If this is not checked, its result will not be good.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if I say that if there is drought in the villages, the cities will also not remain unaffected. The purchasing power of the people living in cities is also lost and they cannot afford to have *khas khas* and airconditioners and even light in the electric bulbs. In case there is no production in villages, nothing will come into cities and there will be recession all round. There is a saying: *"Gehon ke saath ghun bhi pis jata hai"* and *"Kath ke saath loha bhi tar jata hai."* If the crops are bumper, then the poor people like Harijans. Girijans and labourers are able to earn their livelihood alongwith the farmers. But when the famine strikes, all suffer along with the one... *(Interruptions).....*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have every respect for your bell. But keeping in view my feelings on the subject please give me two minutes more. We have been given time in the end, but the Members in the beginning have been allowed 40 minutes each.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in two third of my area, underground water is saline and brackish and there is very serious situation of drinking water in Mahendragarh area. Straw and hey is being sold at Rs. 100/- per quintal in our area and if this situation is allowed to continue, how would the cattle and the human beings survive? Camels used to eat leaves of trees, but due to failure of monsoon, even the leaves are not there are there is no fodder for the Camel. In our area no arrangement has been made to provide fodder for the Camel. There is a saying: *Bagula to pani Aayi Marya toon kyon mari bater."* The hon. Prime Minister has spoken a lot about our duties in such circumstances. I would conclude by raising two or three points.

First, the Food for work Programme should be started again and relief works for the poor and the downtrodden should also be initiated.

The ponds which have gone dry should be filled with the canal water again. Like foodgrains, fodder should be stored and made available to the farmers on subsidised rates. In villages, sugar, edible oil and many other consumer items are made available to the people through Fair Price Shops, but the shopkeepers sell them in the cities from where these commodities are supplied. Some suitable action should be taken in this regard. The loans which have been given to the farmers should either be remitted or their recovery be postponed for at least two years and exemption be allowed on interest for two years.

I wanted to say a lot of things but as the bell has already been rung many times, I am compelled to conclude. Our Sardar G.S. Dhillon is a very old freedom fighter and he belongs to the countryside.

[*English*]

He should have his fingers on the pulse of the farmer.

[*Translation*]

With these words, I conclude. Thanks.

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me time to speak.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Madhya Pradesh is the most backward state of the country and 44 districts out of 45 are in the grip of drought. In my area, farmers and labourers have no work to do and they remain busy in reciting Ramayana, etc. Under such circumstances, I would request the Govern-

[Shri Kammodilal Jatav]

ment to sanction maximum funds to the State Government of M.P. which is a backward area. In Chambal division, tubewells were installed some six or seven years back at Porva, Ambah and Ater etc., electric supply is there, water is also available, but the Government has not commissioned those tubewells so far. If those tubewells are started, at least drinking water could be made available to the people. In my area, Morena, there are at least 20 rivers which have abundant water. But the water from the river chambal flows into the Yamuna and from the Yamuna into the Ganga and from the Ganga into the sea. The canal, which has been constructed to draw water from the Gandhi Sagar Dam, is at a distance of two or three kilometres from these rivers. If water is lifted from the Parvati the Kunwai and the Chambal in my area and discharged in this canal, water can be supplied for irrigation purposes in Bhind and Morena area.

The labourers from Madhya Pradesh, who used to go to Punjab and Haryana in search of work can neither go there as these States are also facing drought and nor get any work here due to serious drought in our area. Therefore, relief works shou d be undertaken there immediately and f air Price Shops should be opened so that workers could get the work and also the foodgrains. The farmers in my area have let off their cows by putting a turmeric mark on their foreheads. Several thousands of cattle have met their untimely death in my area If you ensure the supply of fodder, the remaining cattle could survive there. I once again express my thanks to you for giving me time to express my views.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to congratulate the hon Agriculture Minister, Sardar Dhillon for providing 27,000 tonnes of foodgrains to Himachal Pradesh. It was an effort to overcome the effects of the loss caused by the recent floods, but now a great problem which we are facing is that of the drought. Earlier there used to be a lot of rainfall in Himachal Pradesh, but now in the absence of rain, all the rivers and dams have gone dry and the crops of maize, potato and fodder in the villages have withered. I would like to submit to you that the rivers and drains flow at a great depth there. In the hilly areas, the people have to keep their cattle at a great height. The residences in the villages are scattered. Keeping in view this situation, foodgrains as also fodder for the cattle should be supplied by the Government of India, because there is acute shortage of them. I would like to suggest that water tanks should be constructed to store rain water so that it could be utilised in future. For this purpose, the Central Government should provide help to the State Government. There are a large number of gardens in Himachal Pradesh and it is also called a State of Gardens. The apple crop in Himachal Pradesh has been affected by a disease called 'Safeb'. The poor are not able to purchase the medicine because they do not have the money to buy it. There is a great problem of spinkling the medicine. Apple worth lakhs of rupees would have to be destroyed. It needs special attention that the apples afflicted by disease should be purchased at a rate of at least Rs. 300/- per quintal and destroyed. Only then the gardener would be able to survive there. If this is not done, it will have adverse effect on the economy of the gardeners of Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir and their economic conditions would be shattered.

It is a matter of great pleasure that the hon. Prime Minister has constituted a subcommittee for the purpose and has declared in his address to the nation on the independence day that all out effort would be made to deal with the situation of drought. I would like to assure him that all the congress workers including ourselves are there to assist him and to extend our full co-operation to him in this task. Our Government has constituted a subcommittee under the chairmanship of the hon. Agriculture Minister which is looking after this department. You would have to implement this programme in villages in a

very organised manner so that the common man could get the benefit.

A mention was made here about the loans. In our neighbourhood, the previous Haryana Government had given loans to the people, but the new Haryana Government has taken a very astonishing step announcing remission of loans amounting to Rs. 273 crores. As a result a wrong feeling has been created among the poor in our State and the people are saying that as the loans of the farmers and the poor have been remitted in our neighbouring State Haryana, similarly our loans should also be remitted and the people are not inclined to repay their loans. The creation of such a feeling among the people could not be termed to be in the interest of anyone. Because many people had taken loans and had started the transport business with the help of the loan and some other started the gardening business. Should the loans of all such people be remitted? From one point of view it is correct also that when Haryana Government has remitted the loans of 7 lakh beneficiaries, their loans should also be remitted. But this has created a very complex situation before us. It is for the Governemnt to decide as to what has to be done in this regard but it is a fact that after assumption of power by the new Government in Haryana, not only Haryana, a leading State in the production of foodgrains has been affected by the drought, but alongwith it Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and even Maharashtra have also been affected by serious drought. Our Government should give a serious thought to it and find out the adverse effects this step of Haryana Government would have on the Government Banks, Co-operative Banks etc. in order to take suitable steps to remedy this situation. It might be that the people who have been given loans, must have been given loans from one or the other funds, but loans of all such people have been remitted. Steps should be taken to check such wrong steps. Government should think seriously about it. But it is most essential that since the crops of potato and apple have been destroyed in Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir and with a view to provide help to the people, an amount of at least Rs. 80 crores must be given to the Government of Himachal Pradesh so that the economic condition of the gardener and the farmer could be strengthened. No doubt, the drought has caused extensive damage in Kashmir State, There is almost uniform situation in the entire country, but relief works should be undertaken in such a manner that all the needy persons are benefited. Some hon. Members have referred to the drought condition in Rajasthan. Several camps have also been organised there. Affluent persons should be pursuaded to help the people and the Government in such a difficult situation being faced by the country so that all of us could face the drought situation successfully. However, Himachal Government should be given full help.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, I rise just to keep the record straight. Although the northern part of Bengal is reeling under floods the whole of South Bengal is already being threatened with a serious drought condition. I would like the Minister to remember that. So the name of West Bengal may also be added in this drought list because the southern part is not able to do the sowing operation without water. This is my submission. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the existing drought situation is being discussed today. I hail from Rajasthan and the drought there this year is unprecedented. The magnitude of drought is such that we are getting news of cattle dying from every part of that State perhaps we may get news of human deaths in future. We will have to accord serious consideration to the situation as otherwise it might get out of control.

I think that there must be some reason behind the occurrence of this natural calamity. On the whole, I will blame the

[Shri Shanti Dhariwal]

Meteorological Department for it because it never informed or warned the Government that there will be little rainfall on account of which such severe drought will have to be faced by the country in the coming years.

Roughly speaking the reason for the failure of monsoons this year is that adequate pressure was not formed in the Pacific Ocean. The reason given for it is the nuclear tests and explosions conducted by U.S.A. and France in the Pacific Ocean. These nuclear tests have distrubed the ecological balance over the pacific which has resulted in scanty rainfall in our country. I want to request you that this point needs to be discussed seriously. You should not let it go by saying that this unprecedented drought has occurred due to the failure of monsoons and that it will be dealt with by providing relief measures It is essential to look into it seriously.

I want to request the hon Minister of Agriculture that this point should be got raised in the U.N.O. through the Ministry of External Affairs so that the Pacific Ocean is made free of all nuclear tests because they tend to disturb the ecological balance which results in severe drought conditions in our country. Such condition may take a worse turn in future in which thousands of people may die of hunger and the people may be forced to sell their land, house, property and even their wives for want of employment. It seems that if is a well planned conspiracy.

It is not one but there are many things which are being said against our country abroad. It is their well thought out plan to put us in an embarrassing position by shattering our economy so that we are compelled to start begging again as we had been doing under PL-480 in the past. It is essential to look into this point.

I do not want to mention those points which are being repeated unhesitatingly by some 7 or 8 of our colleagues everyday. I only want to request the Government through you that it is a well planned conspiracy which should be unveiled after conducting necessary investigations. We should ensure that such atomic tests are not conducted in the ocean in future as these tests destroy our economic balance and result in delayed monsoons. We should make sure that there is adequate rainfall in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should conclude now.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have just started. If you ring the bell like this, I will have to withdraw whatever I have already submitted and sit down. I have got an opportunity to speak after 15 days and I am not speaking anything irrelevant. You have not pointed out to me that I am talking irrelevant. I am speaking to the point.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Should we clap?

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: You do not even clap.

Mr. Chairman, Sir. I want to request the Government through you that some or the other action should be taken against the Scientists of the Meteorological Department because they have failed in discharging their duties.

Secondly, a number of schemes like Soil and Water Conservation programme for which Rs. 196 crores have been earmarked under the Seventh Five Year Plan, Watershed Improvement Programme in Catchment areas of river valleys, reclamation plans for ravines etc. have been bitterly criticised for their unsatisfactory design and poor implementation resulting in considerable losses to the exchequer. The Government spends Rs. 600 or Rs. 700 crore on drought relief works but not even a small part of this amount is utilised to prevent and reduce the intensity of drought. We have to import vegetable oils

and pulses worth Rs. 2000 crores every year. So much of money is spent yet no arrangements are made for reducing the severity of the drought conditions. It is being repeatedly said by the Government that they have a stock of 23 million tonnes of food grains but it is not sufficient keeping in view our population.

In order to prevent this problem the Government should promptly clear all the small and medium irrigation projects. Several irrigation schemes concerning 50 rivers of Rajasthan are pending for approval either in the National Water Commission or in the Planning Commission. The reason given for non-clearance of the projects is resource constraint. If these small and medium irrigation schemes are approved in time, these schemes can be very useful for the farmers.

Keeping in view that there are still two and a half years left of the current Five Year Plan and only 50 per cent of the amount allocated for the current plan has been spent, I want to suggest that we can bring about improvement in the drought position by allocating more funds out of the remaining amount for implementation of irrigation and power schemes. Today many farmers are prepared to install tubewells but they are not able to get power connections. If it is not possible to supply power to the farmers, we should at least provide generating sets at subsidised rates so that they are able to tap groundwater for irrigation purposes. In this connection, I would like to read out an extract of an article published in the 'Times of India.'

[*English*]

"But where the Government's role is positively malign is in its encouragement of well-drilling programmes and in granting farmers the freedom to draw as much groundwater as they like. Sinking more wells—sometimes borewells at the bottom of dug wells - and using scarce energy to pump out water is the farmer's kneejerk response to the drought. The Government has declared supply of power to pumpsets as the highest priority item; it has also launched big well-drilling plans. And big farmers have been encouraged by a host of political leaders to demand power from the State electricity boards by gheraoing their offices, if necessary.

This big farmer pressure is certain to lead to a big draft on that ultra-scarce resource, groundwater. Groundwater is too precious for it to be allowed to be tapped at will. In a situation of hydrological drought or worse, there is no recharging of groundwater. It is simply lost with disastrous consequences for the ecosystem and the soil itself. Already, about a seventh of the country's 4526 blocks have been officially acknowledged to suffer from or be close to over-exploitation of groundwater."

[*Translation*]

The situation today is that groundnut is also not available. In such conditions when the level of groundwater is going on declining, what will happen if we go on giving permission for digging more wells? Therefore, there should be proper planning. Handpumps are installed at a depth of 50 to 60 feet and they become dry after a few days. In this situation handpumps should be installed at a depth of 200 feet. A rule should be framed making it compulsory that if water is not available at a depth of 60 ft. then drilling should be carried on upto the depth of 120 ft. Strong action should be taken against those officers who fail to observe this rule. I want to request that an appropriate law should be enacted in this regard. We see today that millions of rupees are being spent on installation of handpumps but almost all of them become dry after drawing out a small quantity of water. I hail from Rajasthan and I would like to submit that the Centre should supply the entire fodder requirements of Rajasthan. A fodder bank should be opened in the country. Rajasthan, especially its western parts are totally dependent on their cattle wealth and cattle-rearing is the main occupation in these areas. If they are not able to get fodder then their lives will become miserable. Moreover, at

[Shri Shanti Dhariwal]

such time the Centre should release the remaining amount of Rs. 82 crores which it has to pay under the Material Component plan. In addition, the Central Government should release 3.5 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrains free of cost as demanded by the Government of Rajasthan.

With these words, I thank you and conclude.

14.57 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI G.L. DOGRA (Udhampur): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have been waiting for the last ten days or so to speak and I straightway come to the subject.

The drought is unprecedented. The area covered by drought this time is unprecedented; and the misuse of the relief amount that has been given in hte recent past for untimely rains, etc is also unprecedented.

Sir, we have talked a lot about drought, and about the gravity of the situation. But I do not think, we have so far found any solution. As far as the present as well as the future are concerned, we are not hitting at the right point. We should hit the nail on the head. Unless the State Governments become very serious to tackle this very grave problem, unless they are able to set right their own machinery to prevent corruption and unless the State ministers themselves, irrespective of the party to which they belong, try to become a symbol of ideal conduct and serve as a model to their public servants, the problem is not going to be solved properly.

The State Governments have to deal with the problem. Central Government can only assist the States, whereas the States themselves have to initiate action to solve the problem. The role of the Centre is only a helping role. The role of the States is to take action initially. The States are primarily responsible for tackling problems such as drought. Our tendency is that we want to take as much money as possible from the Centre; but we are not asking the States to do what is required of them. We are not looking at the problem as a national problem. We are not thinking about this problem on national lines. It looks as though we are advancing the argument of a national calamity, just for the sake of having a debate.

15.00 hrs.

But if we are to be serious about it, we will have to behave in a different way. If you want to save the granaries of India, particularly of Punjab, Haryana and also Rajasthan to some extent, you will have to see the Forests of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh which are ruined. I am just pointing out this for your information only What a devastation has taken place? You have seen its consequences also.

You see the way in which the Forests of Madhya Pradesh have been mercilessly cut You see the devastation also. The sources of rivers are from these places only. The sources of these rivers are in the mountains and the forests covered by the trees. The density of the forests is the guarantee to save you from the floods. It also guarantees you that underground water and overground water sources are not depleted. But what has happened? You just fly over the hilly areas or you just walk over them. I would like to ask you, what did you see? We are just playing with the future of humanity. Forests and hills have been rendered naked. Each and every tree has been cut. You know what is going to happen? There will be shortage of foodgrains. I agree with my young friend who spoke just now has said that whatever foodgrains we have stored are not adequate and they are hardly sufficient to meet the requirements upto the next crop season. I would like to ask you, as to what

is the guarantee that the next crop will be a bumper one? We must see to it that whatever we have got, we must keep it for the future also. But what is happening?

In Punjab, foodgrains were damaged due to rains. Even in my State also, it has so happened. Then what happened to the damaged foodgrains? The Government have refused to purchase it from the farmers.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

The Food Corporation of India have said that they are unfit for human consumption. What has happened to that? The man who grew the foodgrains had been given a relief on very liberal scale. The people other than the actual farmer are still getting their relief. The same foodgrain is sold to the private traders and they are hoarding it or just grinding it and selling it in the market. So, those people have benefited from this natural calamity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI G.L. DOGRA: It is not just a formality. It is not a school roll call. After all you must also allow us to speak. After all we have come here. People who have spoken for a long time do not represent more people.

You see first of all, how are they benefited and also go on saying that the Government is not purchasing their foodgrains. This you have to look into it. There will be not only a shortage of foodgrains but also there will be adulteration, high prices and also lack of drinking water both for humanbeings and also for cattle. You have to look into all these things more seriously.

In this connection, I would like to make some suggestions The best relief will be to purchase even damaged foodgrains and use it as fodder.

The Administration of Agriculture and Forest will have to be integrated together. There may be two Ministries but their administration will have to be completely coordinated. Unless you look into the conservation of forest, its maintenance, its growth, you will not be able to tackle this problem.

I would like to say here that in the Agricultural Universities, agricultural research will have to be reoriented. What can be done in these conditions, where there is inadequate rainfall or there is no rain at all. The dry lands are the main base of agriculture. In my State the bulk of agriculture is on the rain fed land. Therefore, research should be reoriented to see what can be grown in a better way on such lands. Then you have to look to the trees, multi-purpose trees— trees which can give you fruits, trees which can give you timber and trees which can give you fodder—you will have to grow such trees. No research is being conducted on this. This will have to be done.

As far as rain-fed and hilly areas are concerned, attention will have to be paid there in respect of varied geo-physical and varied weather conditions. You will have to see what can be grown at various places. That will have to be done. That is not being done.

Border areas and hilly areas particularly have been neglected so far. If you go on neglecting them, it will result in two bad things: if border areas are neglected, there will be smuggling; if hilly areas are neglected, there will be further damage of the forests. People will have to do something. So, attention will have to be paid towards those areas.

I again say that the task of the Minister of Agriculture is very difficult. He has got to face the present difficulties. There is no guarantee that the times to come will be normal times, or that there will be bumper crops. We should always be prepared to face these difficulties. So, we should mobilize the help of experts.

[Shri G.L. Dogra]

Regarding inputs being given, they should not be put in, in a normal way. To decide what inputs are now required to be put in, under these changed circumstances, scientists should be put on the job. With their advice, further inputs should be distributed and made available to small farmers and marginal farmers particularly, because they are in distress; they are in a bad way. Their cattle is gone, their trees are gone, and their crops are gone. They are in a very bad way. Relief works i.e. the Food for Work programme should be intensively used; and whatever works can be done in a particular area, should be started.

These are my suggestions. I have finished; but please allow my successor at least to speak undisturbed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the severest drought of the century that has visited our country this time. The committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister will deal with the situation effectively. Today we find that people are starvir g and there is shortage of employment opportunities, fodder, drinking water and medicines. Sir, I would like to give a few suggestions in this respect.

My first suggestion is that as the level of water has gone much deep so drilling machines having capacity to draw out water from the depth of 1500 to 3000 ft. should be made available. In this way the people as well as the cattle will get water for drinking. Artificial fodder should be arranged for the cattle. There is sufficient stock of foodgrains in the godowns. The labourers should be provided foodgrains at the place of work.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hail from Madhya Pradesh where all the Districts have been affected by drought. It is, therefore, necessary to start relief works there immediately. Funds should be made available to the State Government as much as they require. At present, the important question is to sustain the people. Water should be released in the big dams and ponds in a phased manner so that we may have not to see such days in future. Construction of railway lines should be included in the relief works undertaken at the time of famine and drought as was done during the British period. By doing so, on the one hand railway lines are laid and on the other people also get jobs. This work should be taken up on war footing.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at present the whole country is facing drought and as many as 262 districts are in the grip of drought as a result of which people are facing hardships. The Government is trying to ease the situation. The Prime Minister has formed a drought relief cell on behalf of the All India Congress (I) Committee and included therein all the people's representatives of all the States. Keeping in view the gravity of situation, the hon. Prime Minister has cancelled his foreign tour. It shows how much concerned he is towards the drought. Our hon. Agriculture Minister, who is a senior and experienced hand, is dealing with this situation effectively. I hope we will be able to control the situation in the drought affected areas. There was prosperity in my area Jammu and Poonch as in other States. I have just returned after visiting that area. The people are much perturbed due to the drought condition. Rabi crops could not be grown as there was not much rains. Ours is a hilly area where water is not available. Moreover it is a border area where thousand acres of land is irrigated with rain water but in the absence of rains, the crops have been damaged. The Government should mitigate the hardships of the people. Earlier, there had been much rains but this time there was no rainfall. In such a situation the people have to face difficulties which should be solved permanently by making water available for irrigation purposes. In case there is no rainfall, they

should be able to get water to irrigate their land for growing crops. I would like to say to the hon. Minister that cent per cent subsidy should be provided there so that the farmer may be able to install small pumps for lift irrigation. There are many people in the flood affected areas who have no land of their own but are solely dependent on the land for their needs. Such people should be provided free ration. It is true that the hon. Prime Minister had sent a team of high officials in my State which might have assessed the loss suffered by the people. But we have not received any funds so far. We are, however, getting some foodgrains. I would like that in view of the severe drought in the State, we should be provided maximum funds. That State should be declared as a drought affected area and relief works should be undertaken there so that the people may get some relief. I am grateful to the Prime Minister for providing us ration and for helping us in many ways.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while expressing my views on the drought situation in the country, I would like to quote a couplet. I hope you would give me 5 minute's time and not ring the bell:

"Wahe chal chuke hein, aa rahe hein, aa rahe honge,
Shabe firaq guzar di hamne, intzar mein."

Sir, drought is a natural phenomenon but as our hon. Members have said rightly that this year's drought has never occurred in the last 100 years. Our colleagues have drawn your attention towards many points which I would not like to repeat. But I would, however, like to say this much that I differ with the view expressed by many hon. Members that power should be made available to rural areas after excercising a cut in the quota of the industrial sector because it will eventually result in shortage of commodities of daily use and push up their prices. I would like to suggest that crores of units of power which is being wasted on princely living of a few people and bureaucrats in our country, who maintain big lawns and keep dogs and buffalos should be saved and supplied to the villages.

It is true that the cost of production increases when diesel or electricity is used for irrigating the fields which is made available to the farmers free of cost and in that case if the procurement price is not increased accordingly, the farmer will have to dispose of his ornaments, houses, and to keep his body and soul together. The moot point is how this increase in the cost of production will be adjusted to enable the farmer to meet the situation easily.

It is also true that farmers have been provided crores of pumping sets against loans and grants, but does the hon. Minister know that the price of a pumping set is Rs. 4 thousand in the market. Whereas the same pumping set is being provided to the poor farmer by the Government institutions, banks or the Department or the Ministry at a cost of Rs. 6.5 thousand. He should be saved from such exploitation. When the Government is engaged in raising the standard of living of the farmer, it should also give attention towards such irregularities, corrupt practices, etc. which the farmer has to face. The hon. Minister should put a check on those who are amassing money by exploiting the farmers. Our Ministries and Departments are introducing new varieties of seeds in the name of development. Will the Department of Agriculture develop such varieties of seeds which can be grown without much water. Our water resources.....

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Let the hon. Minister reply now.

[*Translation*]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Sir, under the schemes which are framed for increasing purchasing power and for executing relief works, there is a principle in regard to man power that 50 per cent

[Shri Chandra Shekhar Tripathi]

amount should be spent on inputs and the remaining 50 per cent on the manpower. But we find that fictitious muster rolls are prepared while implementing programmes like NREP and the real beneficiary is not employed and in this way they are exploited

I wanted to speak on a number of more points but as you have interrupted me so, I conclude.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been waiting for quite a long time, but I have not been given an opportunity to speak.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr Chairman, Sir, discussion on drought has been going on for many days I also want to speak

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to propose that the hon. Members who want to speak may do so before 3 45 P.M. The hon Minister would speak at 3 45 P M.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: We should get an opportunity

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: Eighty Members have spoken by now

(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: It has already taken 5 days.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: You are forgetting, it has taken 6 days

[*English*]

AN. HON. MEMBER: The Minister may speak tomorrow.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: No, no. Hon. Minister will reply positively at 15.45 hours. It is for the Members to adjust. After his reply we have to take discussion under Rule 193 on floods.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHD MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on drought has been going on in this House for many days. Many people have given their suggestions ragarding drought, but what are the causes behind it? Why has the drought occurred?

I would like to submit that it depends on our deeds and nobody can help us. Even the Agriculture Minister would not be able to save us. Whether we dig a well or drill a tube-well, unless the nature is kind to us, we would not be able to do anything

What is the position so far as our deeds are concerned? We will have to analyse on deeds to find out the causes of drought. Dhillon Saheb would not be able to do anything unless nature is kind to us. All these things that the water level has gone down or this has happened or that has happened are irrelevant. Unless Almighty God is kind to us, nothing is going to happen. We should pray in mosques, perform yajnas in temples and do good deeds to appease the nature and our deeds are not good these days.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: Mahfooz Ali Khanji, I would like to submit to you that we have done all this I had not disclosed this to the House I had gone to Jaipur to perform a yajna, but in vain.

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was to speak on floods But one of my colleagues here drew my attention to the fact that we were discussing the drought situation in the country Even if I had started speaking on

floods, I would come to the subject of drought. I do not want to deliver a lengthy speech. There is no time. But I have to make one point, I want to put a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture as to whether he is prepared to understand the dimension of the problem, it may be floods or it may be drought. Sir, when the First Plan was formulated, we had visualised that agriculture was subject to vagaries of nature and therefore we paid more attention to agriculture. But what obtained in our country in 1950s has continued to be so in late 1980s. We found that it was a vast country, and in one part of the country there were floods and simultaneously there was drought in another part of the country. So, we gave utmost importance to agriculture in the First Plan. Then in the Second Plan, we said that the bias should be in favour of industry. Then when we formulated the Third Plan: we realised that we had committed the mistake and we had not solved the problem of agriculture. Now, in the Fourth Plan, again more stress was laid on agriculture and thereafter we have been paying more attention to this subject. But we feel that our development has been patchy. This is not the occasion for us to have a list of achievements and discuss them. Nobody will deny that we have great achievements to our credit. But we have not solved the problem of agriculture which is the backbone of our economy.

Now, you have no national grid for water resources. You have no national grid for power resources and the entire process of planning is in jeopardy. So, I want to put a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. When you have a lot of water in one part of the country, will you rise to the occasion to solve the problem of drought in the country? All this is due to mismanagement of our resources and that is because we have had a long spell of patchy development in this country. Shri Mohd. Mahfooz Ali Khan, while speaking, felt frustrated about the situation. But he made his point. So, Mr. Chairman, you may have discussion for another month. But unless the Government changes the design of planning, they will not be able to solve the problem. Now since we have to discuss the situation arising out of floods, I will formulate my ideas about floods later and I will give examples about the flood situation that is obtaining in Jammu and Kashmir State. All I would say is that there should be qualitative change in the planning process and unless you do that, there will not be proper agricultural development in the country and we will not be able to find a solution either to drought or floods. Thank you.

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR (Mysore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many of my colleagues here have discussed the seriousness of drought situation that is prevailing in this country. The poor and erratic behaviour of monsoon is the main reason of the present drought. With less than 40% of the districts in the country receiving normal to excess rainfall against well over 50% in the previous year, the year 1987-88 is going to be the fourth successive year of the monsoon being below the average.

The rainfall statistics make depressing reading of 35 meteorological zones in the country, only 10 have received normal or excess rainfall, the rest being either deficient or scanty.

The worst hit States are Haryana and Punjab, the nation's granary, besides Rajasthan. The zones severely affected include other notably productive areas like West U.P., coastal Andhra Pradesh, Central Bihar, Saurashtra and Kutch. In Gujarat, there has been no sowing in 78 of the 182 talukas in the State. The crops like paddy, cotton, pulses, bajra and maize are totally lost with little or no chance of recovery, even if the monsoon revives now. The situation is hardly better in Madhya Pradesh. One-third of the total districts received between 10 and 30% of the normal rainfall, while the remaining have had less than half the average. But in Maha-

[Shri Srikanta Datta Narasimharaja Wadiyar]

rashtra, the situation is different. The seven districts of Marathwada afflicted with drought for the last three years have had good and uniform rain. But six other traditionally drought prone districts in Central Maharashtra and almost all of Vidarbha have been starved of rain, after an initial wet spell.

Of Kerala's 14 districts, only four, namely Alleppey, Ernakulam, Kottayam and Trichur have received rainfall. Whereas on the whole, the State has received 32% less rain than the average with Wynad district being the worst-hit with a deficit of 63%. For Tamil Nadu, the north-east monsoon, which sets in later in the year, is the main source of rainfall but whatever rainfall it has got so far this year has been less than satisfactory.

The Eastern States, in comparison, have had a good monsoon. Assam, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Sikkim, Orissa and the Bihar plains have had excess of normal rainfall. But the traditional drought prone Kalahandi, Phulbani, Balangir and Koraput districts in Orissa are reeling under the grip of unprecedented drought. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura have had deficient or scanty rain but since the average is normally far in excess of the amount of rain required for the Kharif crops, the deficiency may not affect the output very much.

Now, I would like to say a few words about my State, Karnataka. Deficient rainfall in many parts of the State continues to hamper agricultural operations as well as the proper growth of the crops sown in the early Kharif, period in Karnataka. Of the 175 talukas in the State, 97 talukas are reeling under severe drought. Except in some parts of Shimoga, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Kodagu, Gulbarga, Raichur, Bidar and Belgaum districts, rainfall was scanty all over the State.

Early sown Kharif crops in the dry land of Bangalore and Tumkur districts have again started withering due to insufficient rainfall in major parts. Sesame crop, especially is affected in Bangalore rural district. Transplantation of paddy and ragi crops in many parts of the State have also been hit for want of proper rainfall.

So, the State of Karnataka has been suffering from drought of varying intensity and it will find it difficult to provide drinking water for people as the water table has been receding. I request that the Central technical team, in conjunction with the State authorities should span out into the country-side and finalize a blue-print for action.

According to Karnataka's Minister for Rural Development, the State has kept aside Rs. 25 crore worth of wheat and rice for food for work programmes. But with this amount, the Food for Work Programme cannot be implemented fully in that State. So, Central Government should allocate additional fund for desilting of tanks and clearing of canals. The rural work force will get employment in the process. Over the last decade, agriculture has shown poor performance in Karnataka. Foodgrain production in the State which reached 72.99 lakh tonnes in 1977-78 has been stagnant since then. Indeed, in most years, foodgrain production has fallen well below this figure, dropping to an estimated 55.90 lakh tonnes in 1985-86. This picture is not confined to foodgrains alone. Sugarcane production declined from 148.58 lakh tonnes in 1982-83 to an estimated 92.63 lakh tonnes in 1986-87.

Lastly, I would like to suggest that Government should give emphasis to compensate the farmers for the damage of crops, on employment generation in rural areas, on the provision of food for the poor, drinking water to villages and fodder for the cattle.

[Translation]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very happy that after the main

land, you have taken care of islands also. We have never heard of drought but this time our island has also been affected by this grave drought with the result that our entire paddy-crop has been destroyed. The people are very much perturbed. Even Government has not started any relief work there so far. I have just returned from the islands and I would like to tell the hon. Minister that no action has been taken on the proposals sent by the Administration to the Central Government and no study team has been sent there by the Central Government with a view to provide relief to the drought affected people.

Some people say that deforestation is responsible for scanty rains. But 86 per cent area in Andaman and Nicobar Islands is covered by the forest and only remaining 14 per cent area is being used for other purposes. Therefore, I am not prepared to accept the contention that deforestation is responsible for failure of monsoons.

Just now our friend said that there has been a change in monsoons due to ecological conditions. It is for the environment people to look into this aspect and for this purpose a scientific research should be undertaken so that our country has not to face such a difficult situation in future.

With these words, I express my thanks to you.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH (Pilibhit): Mr. Chairman, Sir, one point is that all our resources in Uttar Pradesh like tube-wells and Canals are not functioning well. The Central Government should find out whether the funds provided by the World Bank or the financial assistance provided by the Central Government for installation of tube-wells are being utilised properly or not. It is very essential. I have raised this point, because in our State of U.P., 25,000 tube-wells have been installed and 15,000 tube-wells out of them are out of order. If these 15,000 tube-wells continue to remain out of order, how would 28 per cent of people would get the irrigation facilities? Secondly, there are certain Canals in which water has not been released for the last seven years. We should find out what are the reasons behind it. In order to solve these problems, we should constitute an irrigation committee in every command area, in every village for giving suggestions and the Government should take prompt action on those suggestions after there receipt.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rajasthan has been facing a serious drought for the last 5 years and the assistance you have provided is quite inadequate to meet the requirement of the entire State. I would, therefore, like to suggest that the famine code of the British period should be revised wherein a daily wage of Rs. 2/- has been mentioned, whereas we have fixed Rs. 11/- as the minimum wage. How would it work then? I would, therefore, like to submit that the Agriculture Department should approach the Ninth Finance Commission in this regard and ask it to submit an interim report immediately on the norms to be adopted for extending assistance to the drought affected States. Against a demand of Rs. 700/- crores only Rs. 70 crores are provided. How can we carry on the work?

Secondly, in case of floods, 75 per cent grant is provided, whereas in case of drought the entire amount is advanced as a loan. During floods at least one crop is saved, whereas in case of drought both kharif and rabi crops are destroyed. I would, therefore, like to suggest that in case of drought, more funds should be sanctioned. This point should be looked into. As 70 per cent grant is provided in case of floods, cent per cent grant should be sanctioned in case of drought. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am raising a very important matter. I would like to submit that Rajasthan is facing a grave situation and the Government should release the foodgrains and funds for making arrangements for drinking water as have been demanded by the State Government so that the cattle and human beings are

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

saved. Workers have not been paid wages for the last two months and an amount of Rs. 82 crores is due to them. Besides this amount, 3.5 lakh tonnes of foodgrains and Rs. 112 crores for providing drinking water and the amount required for providing fodder should be released immediately so that the cattle and human beings could be saved and the workers could be paid wages.

SHRI VISHNU MODI (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one or two points. The hon. Minister is going to reply just now. He will most probably say that a study team will visit the area to conduct investigations, but the schemes prepared while sitting in air-conditioned cabins of the Agricultural Ministry for tackling this horrible and unprecedented drought are proving to be ineffective and are revealing their hollowness. The inefficiency of the Metereological Department is also coming to light. Many of our States including Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan are facing drought condition and the schemes prepared in the air-conditioned rooms are not showing positive results due to which the people in Rajasthan and elsewhere are facing extreme hardships. Therefore, I want to request you to change the old norms and provide immediate relief and forget the clinches. In regard to my constituency, I want to submit that if water from the Yamuna or the Chambal is not supplied there, it will create an acute shortage of water there. In the adjoining areas also water is in short supply. Water can be supplied in these areas only by the Railways and it should be done before the Yamuna and Chambal rivers also dry up.

*SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the country has attained freedom 40 years ago. But has achieved very little. As a result we see many starvation deaths taking place every day in different parts of the country. It is most unfortunate, that the nation is still suffering from poverty and hunger. Sir, we have been discussing about the drought situation for the past 6 days in this House. Many things have been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister by the hon. Members. Since the hon. Minister has the first hand information through this discussion, he should not wait any more for the reports from the State Govts. or Committees deputed to various places for evaluating the situation. Actually, many State Govts have already sent such reports to the hon. Minister. If the Govt. is keen to rescue the farmers and others who are worst affected, grants should be released forthwith by the Central Govt. as sought the State Govts.

Sir, transplantations and seedlings have already withered away. Farmers are in a hopeless situation. The Govt. should come forward to supply seedlings to the farmers in the affected areas where there are chances of bring up another crop. Farmers are now too poor to repay the loans. The short term loans should be converted into long term loans. It is still better, if the Govt. writes off the loans taken by farmers. In view of the prevailing situation, I appeal to the hon. Minister to take these steps urgently.

Sir, Andhra Pradesh is one of the worst drought affected areas in the country. The State Govt. has brought to the notice of the Central Govt. that it will require at least Rs. 230 crores to meet the situation on war footing. But, as usual, the Central Government has not taken any decision regarding the assistance to be given to Andhra Pradesh. Sir, it is surprising that the hon. Minister of State for Agriculture during his intervention in the debate, ignored Andhra Pradesh while announcing liberal grants to other States for providing drinking water. We are very sorry about it. Andhra Pradesh is one of the biggest States in the country. Telengana and Rayalaseema are chroni-

* The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

cally drought affected areas. There is an acute shortage of drinking water in these areas. Hence I appeal to the hon. Minister to provide sufficient central assistance immediately for providing water in different parts of the State.

Sir, my constituency has suffered from flood in 1986. There was considerable lost of life and property. Standing crops have been washed out. The crop insurance claims have not been settled so far. It is already one year since the crops have been lost. Yet, there is an inordinate delay in settling the crop insurance claims of farmers in my area. I appeal to the hon. Minister to see that the claims are settled immediately. Various diseases affected sugarcane and coconut. Suitable research work should be taken to find out a suitable remedy for these crop diseases. It will help the farmers very much.

Sir, Polavaram is a prestigious project. If executed, this project can help avert the floods and drought in the region. Similarly Telugu Ganga is an important project. This project can help in rooting out drought from Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh can be the granary of the country. Hence these prestigious projects should be cleared and executed as national projects.

Sir, there is an acute shortage of fodder. The live stock is diminishing every day on account of non-availability of fodder. The Govt. should take steps to open more and more fodder banks in rural areas. Thus, the supply of fodder to the cattle can be ensured. Farmers depend on the cattle wealth and hence it should be looked after carefully. I hope the hon. Minister would take steps in this direction also immediately.

Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity and conclude my speech.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Dr. G.S. DHILLON): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was a long discussion, rather a marathon discussion. I have to attend to each and every point very carefully. First of all, I am very grateful to the hon. Members that they have completely reflected the views of the people and their problems in this House, and it is our duty on this side, particularly the Ministers, to listen to them and to attend to them.

We have established some records in the present set-up. We have had the longest and the toughest drought; this was the longest absence of our very beloved Lady Monsoon; she did not even wink at us; this was the longest discussion under rule 193; this was the longest trial of our stamina, and patience the longest miss-a-meal sittings because many a time lunch hours were almost dispensed with.

Sometimes when I looked back to see if any Minister was there to deputise for me so that I could go out even for a minute, there used to be nobody at my back!

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: It is a wonderful study!

DR. G.S. DHILLON: I was quite a bit disappointed about half-an-hour back because it was a very thin attendance. I am quite happy now that there is a reasonably good attendance at the fag end of the day.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We want to hear you.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: So kind of you.

After hearing to the debate, many of the points were answered by my colleague, the Minister of State Mr. Yogendra Makwana. But there are many broad points which I thought I should refer to. The whole discussion covered a very wide field. I thought some points that are basic and require immediate attention are food and foodgrains for men, fodder for cattle, employment, drinking water for human consumption and also for cattle, and diseases—diseases not in general, but due to lack of purity of water from iron etc and

[Dr. G.S. Dhillon]

other chemicals water borne diseases like Cholera and guinea worms etc.

We have thought of some points about contingecy plans. Contingency plans we had in many forms. When the monsoon failed during June, we had a contingency plan that instead of 120 days crop, we could come to 90 days crop. When monsoon again did not come, we had another contingency plan, let us hope, instead of 90 days crop, we could have other crops at least to make up for the fodder. Even now it is so much delayed that I am having again second thoughts about what to do next.

My main worry at present is to have enough of moisture for our Rabi crop sowing. If we have failed in all the three phases of Kharif, at least we could decide about the drinking water for cattle and for crops. If we could save enough or produce enough water to keep the moisture level for our Rabi crops, that is the main worry that we are facing now.

It has been a very interesting meteorological phenomenon. I have never heard of it. We mainly relied on our own meteorological sources and information from our own Department. But this time quite a number of weeks back, we had heard about another phenomenon which at least I heard for the first time—the misbehaviour of El-Nino phenomenon. It is a phenomenon which starts developing from November, December and goes on developing till the monsoon comes. We were informed that this time El-Nino starting west of Peru sea, the Pacific part of Peru, which heats up and then that keeps moving towards the West and the North West. They saw the abnormal behaviour of El-Nino phenomenon and we were sent this information by informal sources. But when our own Meteorological Department examined it, they examined from their own point of view and said that this may be so, but it is not so dismaying or disappointing.

I enquired that if monsoon comes to us from South-West, how is it that El-Nino from other end affects us? This goes on developing till at the end it touches the North Western hemisphere. It develops into various depression circles and, I am told that unless this circle confronts the western monsoon the busting does not come down and if it so happens then instead of the western part it keeps on moving towards the eastern part. Later on it was confirmed that the rainfall in Assam, Bengal and Bihar may be due to this contact between El-Nino phenomenon and others. This is something very unusual that we had but somehow we believe that it is confirmed.

As Shri Mahfooz Ali said of prayers I tried..

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: He has already gone to the mosque.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: When you go to the mosque I expect you go for this purpose also. We are unfortunately prevented from going to our Gurdwaras.

Sir, as you know out of 35 meteorological sub-divisions upto 22nd July only in 10 sub divisions there was normal or excess rainfall. The latest information I got was that it has been reduced to 9 sub-divisions. This is in contrast to 23 sub-divisions in the corresponding period of 1986, 23 sub-divisions in 1985 and 26 sub-divisions in 1984. So we can safely say that it is one of the worst drought in regard to these meteorological sub-divisions. Except Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and parts of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Karnataka the deficiency in rains in other parts of the country has been 20% or more compared to 'normal' rainfall.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): The rain was there not in whole of Bengal but in some parts of West Bengal.

DR G S. DHILLON: We have our own source of information. It is not so bad.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee mentioned it and I assured her of our full attention.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): As far as Orissa is concerned the Minister seems to be talking of the position as on 21st July. As on today all the 13 districts are short of rainfall.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: Sir, 70% of our land—either rainfed or unirrigated—face this problem. Jawar, paddy, bajra, maize, pulses, groundnuts and soyabean are our important kharif crops. The Central Government had held a conference in April this year with the State Governments and discussed the preparation of contingency plans to meet aberrant weather conditions both in respect of drought prone and flood prone areas. I paid personal visits—the little bit of time I could spare at the week-ends—to some of the States. I visited Himachal Pradesh. I went to Andhra twice. I also went to Rajasthan twice. I went to Karnataka, Assam and Tamil Nadu. Of course, Punjab and Haryana are the normal districts we pass through or come from. We have two terms for the worst hit area, namely, 'deficient' or 'no rain. The worst hit areas are Saurashtra, Kutch and parts of Madhya Pradesh, West U.P., Punjab and Haryana.

AN HON. MEMBER: Rajasthan also.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: The worst of worst hit is Rajasthan. Are you satisfied now?

16.00 hrs.

Then we pass on to western U.P., to Punjab and Haryana. Four districts of Haryana are very badly affected. We have been trying to develop our areas, research, agriculture and irrigation. But, in my view, we have missed one point. We want now to have some sort of agro-climatic division of the country so that we can define areas with more rain, floods, deficient or scarcity areas and then basing our crop patterns, our development patterns, our irrigation system, etc. on that basis. We are seriously occupied with this idea to consider it.

As you know, the rainfall normally comes at the beginning of June or a little earlier. It started well from Kerala. There was just a delay of one or two days. It started well and went right up to Bihar and other parts of Madhya Pradesh till the middle of June and then it slowed down. It revived again after some time and went right up to Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh but did not touch other parts like Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Kutch or Saurashtra. It came to Delhi only on the 26th. That was, I am told, the longest spell of drought that we experienced.

16.01 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

Mr. Janaki Nath mentioned 207 districts. It is not 207 but 407. Out of 407 districts in the country, we had normal rainfall in 145, deficient rainfall in 110 districts, scanty to no-rain in 152 districts. 58 per cent of the total foodgrains and 55 per cent of our oilseeds are grown in the kharif season. You can imagine what a loss we will suffer because of this deficiency in rainfall.

I must share with you my concern that during the last year, the total foodgrains production was 83 million tonnes. I have now started assessing the production coming down by 10, then by 15 and then by 20 million tonnes and so on. But if the rainfall does not come within the next few days, the picture will be very disappointing and distressing.

Of course, as the House is aware, we had a debate number of times on NREP, RLEGP and various other programmes that we carry. Then, the Prime Minister pledged himself to do everything for drought on the Independence Day. He has written letters to the Chief Ministers who have formulated many plans and projects. He has categorically said that he stands committed to do and contribute every bit of our energy and finances for the drought problem.

[Dr. G.S. Dhillon]

Now, besides the Minimum Needs Programme (M.N.P.) and year after year Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), half from the States and the rest half from ourselves have been implemented large number of schemes which we have been setting up water supply in problem areas, now have been additionally strengthened by the setting up of the new technology mission known as the Drinking Water Technology Mission. This Rs. 150 crores is an additionally to the centrally-sponsored schemes.

I have already mentioned the total outlay for ARSWP, NKP and for 50 mini-missions of drinking water Technology Mission which is Rs. 150 crores, is about Rs. 4,000 crores in all in Seventh Plan.

This technology mission is having fifty mini missions each entrusted with specific problem to deal with them separately. But now we find that in these emergency conditions, in these very urgent conditions, it still needs to be augmented with more funds and with more staff and better modes of working to overcome the operational problems. Normally, these funds, as you know, are released through the Department of Rural Development. The Rural Development Department has some sort of a priority allocation of funds for critical areas. When they allocate these funds, they have to identify which are the worst hit critical areas. They have to look into that. Then, there is the reorientation of the State Plans to complete schemes in worst affected areas by December, 1987 and reservation of water from the irrigation reservoirs in drought affected areas for drinking water. When I was in Rajasthan last week—that was my second visit, earlier I had visited Jodhpur, Udalpur and other desert areas—I was under the impression till then that the water problems are more acute in the western desert areas and less in eastern parts. But to my surprise, I found that the condition was not so bad in the western parts but it was the worst in the eastern part. Another point which I observed was and on which I had detailed discussion with the officers and the Chief Minister about a week back, that the urban areas are worst hit. The problem of urban and rural water supply is so interconnected and integrated that once you increase supply to this side, it decreases to the other and if you decrease to the other side, it increases to this side. We have now decided to work under one system. There will be a body in Department of Rural Development which will work in a coordinated manner to keep the balance.

Another thing I found was that the water level has gone down. It has gone down in some other States also. What I suggested and they accepted it also was that we must have some sort of a legislation. I understand that there is some old legislation already there in Rajasthan, but not in other States. They should be very careful in allowing the drawal of water from the subsoil level. It should never be allowed to go below a certain level as the hon. Members during the question hour put that point. If it goes below that level, then all the pumpsets and tubewells go out of operation. They become worthless. By some sort of land management, water management legislation, we have to keep the water level at a reasonably good level.

I assure the House that providing fodder and drinking water will be taken up on war footing They will certainly see it within a couple of days that we are taking very strict and prompt measures

Then, there is a very ticklish problem about *bhoosa*, fodder. It used to be available in Punjab and other places. The paper manufacturers, the industrialist are now buying it at more prices. Once we used to burn it and throw it away, now they are paying more for it than the grain itself. We shall have to pass some sort of a legislation that they would not be able to buy it when drought conditions are there at temporarily.

But I do not give an assurance. We will

nave to do it in consultation with the States. We badly need it. Earlier, Rajasthan used to send their cattle to Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, but now they have also banned it. They now go to Gujarat where they have their own problems. But we will have to do something by some ordinance. This will have to be done on a war footing.

Now about employment. Some members from Rajasthan and Shri Vyas in particular wanted it free. I want to tell Vyasji that they had it already free while their neighbours did not have it. They had 3.00 lakhs at one time and 2 lakhs at another time. But still, I am ready to accommodate their request. With regard to the poverty alleviation programmes such as the Desert Development Programme, DPAP, etc. we have decided that besides having the normal routine programmes, we have to link them up with drought problem so that there can be some sort of help.

As regards *Goshalas*, I asked the people concerned whether they are in a position to look after cattle because people have just now started abandoning their cattle. I also told them that we would give subsidy for all the work that they could do for the cattle. They said that they would inform later on. This is the time to help the *Goshalas* and this is the time for *Goshalas* to look after the cattle. We have asked many voluntary organisations to come forward for this work. My dear friend Shri Indrajit Gupta asked for some sort of cooperation from Shri Makwana and Shri Makwana replied to it. Besides writing to the Chief Ministers and asking the voluntary agencies, if other people also come forward and share this work with us, I shall be extremely happy. Any sort of cooperation and mutual help that we can do to each other in this great task of looking after the drought victims is very welcome.

About buffer stocks, the impression is that we are very complacent about it. We are very liberal because we had enough grain in our buffer stocks. Then suddenly we have been warned that if we are so liberal, the buffer stocks may not last long. Since four or five days, we are trying to assess the position about the level of our buffer stocks. I am told that they are not so bad. But they will not brook any further liberality or generosity to which we are used to in the past. We will be very careful in maintaining our buffer stocks.

About Meteorological Department, we had a discussion with them. I had to cancel my programme of going to Punjab and Uttar Pradesh twice, because it was mentioned on the previous night that there would be rain the next day. I cancelled the programme. What could I do if there was rain? But the rains did not come. This failure of the monsoon is defying everybody, human beings, cattle and the mateorological department even.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The hon. Minister for Water Resources is going away. Is he there for floods or for drought?

DR. G.S. DHILLON: I have in fact, visited each and every type of calamity. I went tc Bengal twice when there were floods. I went to Assam twice, last year and this time as well. And when I came back, there was another flood there. Now, in the case of Himachal Pradesh, it is a very interesting story. I have very limited time....

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): Shri Singh Deo was referring to Shri Shankaranand and not you Sir.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: I am sorry, if he meant the Irrigation Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): We want to know whether the flood has disappeared or the drought has disappeared?

DR. G.S. DHILLON: I am telling you that from last year, even upto now, we have got one memorandum from Himachal Pradesh regarding flood. After three months, I

[Dr. G.S. Dhillon]

received a memorandum regarding earthquake. After three months, I have got a memorandum on drought about a month back. The Chief Minister personally saw me and told me about hailstorm. When any Chief Minister asks me, 'Did you receive my memorandum? Then I have to ask him 'on drought or on flood or on what else'?

AN HON. MEMBER: But in Orissa, there is only drought.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: No, Sir. Regarding Orissa I cannot say. Now I will come to cropping. As I have told you, the future is not only for immediate relief but for some long range policy so that with the long range policy, we may not be facing the same intensity of problem as we do now.

On the matter of crops—on rice and on many other things—there is one type of rice which is good for preparing paddy, etc. It is grown in only one area and we are asking them to discontinue other crops and grow only this crop which will bring double the price.

In Punjab, now, they are again harping only on the old Green Revolution on paddy and wheat. Paddy and wheat are growing everywhere now. I have advised them to diversify their production now and don't grow much wheat and paddy; go to milk and Dairying production, go to horticulture; go to other patterns.

Similarly, we advised other States also where growing of wheat is not economical but pulses and oilseeds are more economical. We asked them why are you insisting on this? Why are you simply enamourerd of growing paddy and wheat? It should not be done. We should grow food crops which will pay more for our region. Now Punjab has got 85 per cent or irrigation. Others have got 35 per cent. Some have got 25 per cent. So we must have the cropping pattern which may fit into the soil with water; irrigation and all that. So we are trying to bring about this now.

When we are so much occupied by these droughts, our only worry now is with a few days left with us if we grow fodder or if not fodder, then at least preserve that water for Rabi. Out of all the priorities, the greatest priority which is now needed is for seed production.

Rajasthan is on the border of my constituency—Ganganagar being only a few miles from there. Rajasthan people loaded their cattle in truck and unloaded them in the Agriculture Minister's constituency. What to do?

We talk about seed. We wasted seeds which did not germinate. Now it has run short. If we do not grow the seed now, with a little bit of moisture, we will be missing the future rabi crop also.

So we are dealing with seed production on a war footing.

Regarding live-stock, I would say here the problem is very acute. For a family, out of seven litres, we have demarcated something for cattle and something for human consumption. Even that is not available. In some areas the problem is so much that where this water is hardly sufficient even for human beings, it has to be shared with the cattle. The position has come to such a stage that in some areas, the poor cattle drink only the mired water today, in these conditions. We are seriously facing this problem. In a week's time, we will either bring it by tankers or pipes or by Railways so that we can save our cattle. That is a very-very serious problem.

Now in my constituency which is near Rajasthan—a few miles from Ganganagar—people come by trucks, loaded with cattle and then they leave them with the Agriculture Minister's constituency to look after them.

As I have already said, I had issued instructions that I do not want a single cow or bull die in my constituency because I will not able to show my face to anybody

But this is going on everywhere. We have to produce fodder banks. Eighty per cent of our rural unemployment is located in drought prone areas, and preference has to be given to NREP and RLEGP to continue the benefits to the poor. We have to set up some sort of coordination or linkage between these various projects.

To Rajasthan, besides NREP and RLEGP we agreed to give foodgrains with which they could pay in kind for 10 lakh workers. Now, for what your Chief Minister did you accuse me, and not him. He went up to 16 lakhs and we had no foodgrains, and then he set you on me. *(Interruptions)*

When I went to Rajasthan last week, he told me: "I am asking for Rs. 6 crores...*(Interruptions)* Those people, your officers perhaps thought that perhaps I was the only guilty man." I said: "Sir, you got it from us. But you over-spent. Give us the over-spent money, because the Finance Minister and the Planning Commission are throttling us. They want that money to be paid back, because we paid it to you, and you do not know what the problem is. I thought this was the right time to tell you, and not earlier."

(Interruptions)

I will take only five more minutes, because Madam Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to take up the next item.

In 1984-85 crop year, drought affected only 12 States; in 1985-86 ten States, and in 1986-87 it is affecting 17 States. Flood also affected in 1984-85, 18 States, in 1985-86, 22 States and in 1986-87, 21 States.

Regarding relief also, I have got State-wise figures. If you want to have an idea, I can tell you; or otherwise, I will pass it on to you. The only assurance I give to Shrimati Geetaji is that she will never find us lacking, in what we do. Compared to other States i.e. to Congress-ruled States, we will perhaps do a little bit more for you, not to be accused by you We will never discriminate.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is because Dr. Dhillon is there.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: Dhillon is just a small linkage in such a big chain.

These tables will also bring out that five States were affected by drought for three years. There are some chronic areas which get drought every year. It was said that these two or three districts i.e. Jaisalmer and Barmer should not be counted as part of Rajasthan when counting their problems and allocating funds. I have put your proposal to proper authorities, and I wish that your Chief Minister does not object to it, because we know that there are some chronic districts in Rajasthan which need special attention, and other areas which need less funds. But I thought that it was up to your Government especially, and it is for you to make them accept it. *(Interruptions)*

There are so many other problems, and so many Members spoke on them. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: You have forgotten Andhra Pradesh. You did not mention Andhra Pradesh *(Interruptions)*.

DR. G.S DHILLON. Your Chief Minister invited me to dinner. After serving me a delicious dinner, he put this question of Rs. 600 crores. I was so helpless; and I just got into the car and came to the rest house.

I am so thankful to you all, and I really appreciate the suggestions given by you.

16.25 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: DEVASTATING FLOODS IN ASSAM, BIHAR, WEST BENGAL AND OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up discussion under Rule 193—item No. 8. Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad that the Calling Attention has been converted into a discussion under Rule 193 which will provide an opportunity to more hon. members to participate in this important subject. It is being discussed every year in this House.

Floods have become an annual visitation now despite several flood control measures announced by the Government. Those who live in flood affected areas know to their cost what it means when floods occur. The crops are damaged or washed away, sometimes twice a year, testing the tenacity of the kisan who sows seedlings twice, one after the other, only to find them all destroyed by swirling flood waters. People have to flee from their homes and take shelter often on roadside. Cattle die by the thousands, houses get damaged and collapsed, adding homelessness to the economic loss of crops and cattle. Even the normally better off are reduced to utter penury, depending upon relief. Floods claim lives of human beings and cattle. They damage roads and bridges, railway tracks and cause disruption of railway traffic. All life in the flood affected areas is totally dislocated. This is just part of the story. Floods in their wake bring pestilence like diarrohea, cholera, malaria and other water borne diseases. As in all such cases the 37 per cent of people below the poverty line are the worst hit as all economic activities come to a dead stop, the roads being breached, the traffic having come to a halt. This is the scenario when floods come.

The picture this year too is grim and fearful. The reports are that floods have caused a damage to an area of about 23.4 lakh hectares and affected a population of 114 lakhs. Over 200 people have lost their lives. In Bihar alone 96 people are reported to be dead, the true death toll could be more because many areas are cut off totally. Over 432 crores worth of damage has been caused to property. All of this comes to top of much greater damage last year due to the same type of floods Imagine the plight of the people of my area who every year rebuild their homes and reacquire cattle only to see that in the next flood most of this is lost. It is living hell for our people. When we say that during the last 35 years average annual losses to crops alone would be of the order of Rs. 316.67 crores, we still do not comprehend the magnitude of the misery which figures cannot express. Their sorrow is something to be felt to be understood. This year, vast areas of Assam, West Bengal and Bihar are now being ravaged by floods heaping misery upon misery on the people living there. In Bihar alone several districts have been affected: Sitamarhi, East and West Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Sharsa, Madhepura, Khagaria, Nalanda and Munger. About 67 lakh people have been affected and damage to crops have been estimated to be of the order of Rs. 23.82 crores. What is more galling, there does not seem to be an end to this ordeal. How long should our people suffer like this?

I am not saying government is indifferent. The Government has been quite aware of the problem. As far back as 1954 we launched the national programme of flood control to cover 40 million hectares of land identified as flood prone. But after 35 years, what have we achieved? Just 13 million hectares or less than a third of the flood prone area have received some kind of protection.

At this rate, I am afraid, we may not cover even half the area that is flood-prone, by the end of this century Even the flood protection measures already provided have not proved effective. It appears that they exist only on paper. For example, in North Bihar, a programme to drain flood waters through a system of canals was sanctioned in the First Five Year Plan. Thirty years later, the work has not yet started. This is the pitiable condition.

In 1976 the Government again constituted National Flood Commission. Most of the States have not implemented it recommendations even though a decade has passed.

The Government may have a point in saying that due to increased population pressure on the flood prone areas, particularly to a depth of one or two kilometres along the river banks, the intensity of flood damage has increased. But may I ask what happened to the Flood Plan Zoning Bill, a model of which was circulated by the Centre to the States in 1975? Till today not a single State has passed a similar Bill into law. Is it because the States do not have the political will to prevent people from encroaching on the flood prone but naturally fertile riverine land? Or is it an unpractical measure to ask people to shift once they are well established?

Everybody in this House, I think, would agree with me that there must be some sanctity to the promises that we make to the people. When it comes to the flood prone people like those in my constituency, the promises seem to be just lines written on water, to be forgotten once the floods abate. Did not the Government tell this very House in July 1980 that henceforward it would spend Rs. 300 crores annually "In a determined bid to control floods"? And what happened between 1980 and 1985? Even the projected provision was Rs. 1048 crores and actual still lower, much lower than the promised Rs. 300 crores a year. In the last 35 years we set apart Rs. 2000 crores for flood protection but we have suffered losses of over Rs. 10,000 crores due to floods and have had to spend Rs. 300 crores annually on flood relief. At the end of this tunnel of suffering there is no light, no ray of hope that floods will not come next year. In fact, the prospect of the same devastation stares us next year too as it has happened this year, as it happened last year also.

That is why I insist that we have a second look at our response to floods. Our flood protection measures are now proved to be inadequate, unscientific and unable to hold the flood over the long term. For instance, in Assam, some 50 per cent of the river Brahmaputra has embankments against floods. But there is no respite from floods. The plain fact has to be admitted that there is onrush of more water during the rainy season than what our rivers can hold; this is compounded by snow melting due to high solar radiation during summer.

We have also problems peculiar to each river, and to each area of a river. The vast expanse of the river Brahmaputra with its changing course due to short length and high pressure of water mixed with boulders and silt, make all normal methods of flood protection useless.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a serious speech is going on and the hon. Minister is not listening.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): You are listening and that is enough.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: In Bihar, the water level of the Ganga is said to rise between Buxar and Mokameh by as much as nine metres in the monsoon thereby effectively sealing off the mouth of numerous tributaries precisely at the time these tributaries are flowing with water. Partly this happened due to the rise in the river bed. So, embankment or no embankment, floods are bound to come. So, the problem has to be tackled in a different manner.

Even where embankments have been constructed, either they are faulty and give way under pressure of water or they further prevent the spread of silt which accumulates and makes the rivers shallower every year causing the flood waters to breach the embankments. All the ingredients of water flow— the monsoon precipitation, the snow melt, the upper air movements— all these are variables. Any flood control measure has to take them into consideration.

And lastly, no system will work unless we provide inter-river connections, more

[Shrimati Kishori Sinha]

particularly to tap water from the north and divert it to the south.

All this analysis leads to just one conclusion. A Centrally sponsored and implemented long term scheme of inter-connecting river links and barrages and canals, and strategic embankments with regular dredging of rivers on one hand and promoting afforestation on the other, is a must.

I strongly suggest that the Prime Minister should initiate an integrated Technology Mission for this and also constitute a National Flood Control Authority with inter-state powers to implement this Technology Mission. This Technology Mission should constitute an expert committee which will construct a mathematical model for flood control taking into consideration all the variables on the basis of data projection for the river basin system. To obtain this data, the river basins should be dotted with telematic data collection platforms linked through a satellite to a central control system, which will, in association with satellite imageries, issue flood control warnings on a regular basis

The comprehensive flood control system should, on the basis of data collected, prepare a plan of strategically located reservoirs, embankments, drainage and irrigation canal systems plus inter-river linkages aimed at total flood control. The mathematical model of the river systems I suggested, would help the technology mission to plan this

The mission should also include annual plans for dredging the Ganga and its tributaries and collection and use of the silt supplemented with afforestation of the catchment areas It should also include construction of flood shelters in high grounds and should have plans of action ready at all times to shift people and cattle to these grounds so that even where floods become inevitable, the loss could be minimised

Once the Technology Mission prepares this plan in the next six to nine months, it should be the duty of the National Flood Control Authority to implement these measures. The States could pass laws to enable the Authority to implement them overriding the State Governments to help quick action. Even as the main reservoirs etc are under construction, work could be started on the chain of flood shelters that should dot all flood prone areas. The funds needed for this must be found. Otherwise, I caution this House that it would once again be a wasted efforts in repeating relief to the flood affected, helping neither them nor the country. I want a Government assurance on the constitution of this Technology Mission and the National Flood Control Authority.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the flood situation which is a perennial problem of our country You will notice this year that almost entire Assam, many parts of West Bengal, some parts of Bihar and a large portion of Jammu & Kashmir are in the grip of torrential floods. Due to erratic monsoon of the current year, you can see that many States have suffered the unprecedented drought of the century surpassing all its previous records. It has been predicted by some old men of 80 to 90 years that such type of severe drought could be followed by rains afterwards, which may cause high floods all over the country.

I am just citing one example from my own constituency. There were no rains since February this year So, the farmers could not have any paddy operations. On 17th and 18th July, 1987, within twelve hours, there was eighteen inches of rainfall which caused floods in almost every river in the State and also disrupted the road and communications system, etc. With a ray of hope the farmers had sown the paddy seeds and prepared the seedbeds to raise seedlings for transplantation, but since then till today, there has been no rain and ultimately the seedlings and the paddy crops are dying. This drought may bring heavy rains ..*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jena, we are discussing about the flood situation. So, you take as little time as possible and leave more time for the Members from the affected States. That will be more appropriate. Your State is not affected by floods. So, my only request is that you take as little time as possible and leave the rest for the Members from the affected States.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: For your kind consideration, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister, while making a statement on our Calling Attention Motion, had also mentioned about Orissa. There was flood in Orissa but now it is in the grip of severe drought.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY (Midnapore): He has no flood, he has drought.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Another request is that please confine yourself to flood situation, not to drought situation because we have already discussed about the drought situation.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: I have not said about the drought situation, I was just citing one example that it may bring heavy floods after this severe drought. This is the prediction of some of the old people of 80-90 years of age. That is what I have said. Four or five States have been affected by floods. Every year we are spending hundreds of crores of rupees because of floods in one part of the country or another, but till today we have not been able to control the floods, not even five to ten per cent of it. Without going into the figures for the previous years, I am just mentioning the figures of 1986 monsoon year when 74.7 lakh hectares of crop area was severely affected and the population affected was about 555.2 lakhs, whereas in the current monsoon year, up to tenth of August, the crop area affected, according to the Government figures, is 23.4 lakh hectares and population affected is 114.4 lakhs. The total damage in 1986 monsoon season was to the tune of Rs. 3,750 crores and the human lives lost were 1,200. This year, till 10th August, 1987, the total value of damage is Rs. 432 crores and the human lives lost are to the tune of 217. This must have exceeded by now because, as we see, the severity of floods in Assam and West Bengal has not reduced, rather it is increasing and the army has been called to help the civilians in rescue and relief operations.

The reasons of floods are many. The floods are not only because of heavy rains but also there are many other factors. I do not want to go into that. We have to check deforestation from the river basins and their catchment areas, check silting of reserviors, stop scouring and erosions of river banks, to provide strong and stable drainage and cross drainage system, to make the canals and fields channels strong, to ensure flood and saline protection embankments so that it may not be exposed to any type of flood, heavy rains and saline inundation and cause floods because of breaches of those embankments. Besides, we have to take up the excavation and renovation of river beds, specially river mouths which are already silted up. But unfortunately, none of these measures could be effectively executed. Even though some measures have been taken but not as per requirement. This is due to constraint of resources or due to Planning Commission giving less importance to flood control measures. We are suffering. This has been so for years together resulting in wastage of millions of crores of rupees of national wealth.

We all know, construction of reservoirs has been recognised by the experts to control floods. But these reservoirs which were completed are going to be silted day by day. I am quoting Hirakud—one of the prestigious dams. If this type of silting is allowed, within 40 years the entire dam will be of no use, as opined by experts. This type of silting may please be checked immediately of all the dams in the country.

Major and medium irrigation projects, specially multi purpose projects like flood control, irrigation and power generation are taking a long time. Long time means,

[Shri Chintamani Jena]

they are behind three to four times than the scheduled time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You may take two minutes more.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA I am trying to conclude within five minutes.

Because of delay in completion of the projects within stipulated time, the estimated cost is rising day by day Sometimes it is going up four to five times There should be time bound programme to complete the project

In this connection I would like to quote relevant portion of the speech of our beloved first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. This he said while hoisting the National Flag on 15th August, 1947. When we are observing 40th anniversary of our Independence Day we should recall what he had told

> "The government of India have in hand at present several vast schemes for developing river valleys by controlling works and developing hydro-electric power These will lead to all-round development These schemes are thus basic to all planning and we intend to complete them as rapidly as possible so that the masses may profit
>
> All this requires peaceful condition and the cooperation of all concerned and hard and continuous work Let us then address ourselves to these great mutual wranging and conflicts. There is a time for quarelling and there is a time for cooperative endeavour. There is a time for work and there is a time for play Today, there is no time for quarrelling our people. Today, we must cooperate with one another and work together, and work with right goodwill"

In this connection, we should feel that after 40 years of our independence, we have not able to do much in the matter of flood control in our country. The Minister of Water Resources, stated on 19th March 1987 in reply to a question by Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik that the strategy proposed in the Seventh Plan for flood control is to give priority to completion of the continuing schemes spilling over from the Sixth Plan, (ii) to execute emergency schemes in vulnerable areas, (iii) to aim at the provision of adequate funds for the proper maintenance of completed works, (iv) to prepare master plans for flood management (v) to promote enactment of legislation for flood plain zoning on the lines indicated in the model bill circulated in 1975, (vi) to intensify the soil conservation and afforestation activities, and (vii) to expand the existing flood forecasting network to cover more vulnerable areas. The hon Minister also said that Rs 947 39 crores have been provided out of which Central Sector component is Rs 149 93 crores and the balance is from States outlays The flood control schemes are planned, implemented and maintained by the State Government/Union Territory Administrations within the total approved Plan outlays in the light of relative priorities adopted

Sir, with this meagre amount of Rs. 149 93 crores earmarked for flood control systems, how can we prevent the floods taking place in a vast country like ours? No doubt it is a State subject. A model Bill was circulated in 1975 to all the States for flood plain zoning and necessary measures to be taken But none of the States could bring forward a Bill and enact it into a law except Manipur This shows the lack of sincerity among the States to have flood control system in our country This should bg looked into and leaving everything to the States to their responsibility is not enough because the ultimate user is the whole nation It is our national wealth and our national economy will grow very rapidly

Sir, I will come to my State. Sir, many of us know that there is high flood in Brahmaputra river because the river-bed has been silted up for which the Government should

take steps immediately. Similarly, in the case of Subarnarekha and Budhabalanga rivers, in my State, the mouths of these rivers have already silted up and causing high flood in the vast adjoining areas. Shri K.L. Rao, the eminent Engineer, had already opined that the river mouth should desilted periodically and should be cleared so that the flood water can go and join the sea very easily. But this has not been done so far. In Subarnarekha river, there is a multi-purpose project which has been established with the goodwill, good wishes and cooperation extended by the Centre. They have started with World Bank loan and World Bank finance and the Subarnarekha multi-purpose to project is going to be executed. But it has been delayed due to land acquisition and other things. I would request the hon. Minister to look into it. This is an inter-State project and the States of West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa should come together and complete this project which would help flood control in the whole area.

Similarly, in the case of Brahmaputra, in the case of Subarnarekha, in the case of Ganga, these are known as treacherous rivers and due to frequent soil erosion, people suffer the most. Due to scouring and soil erosion, the river changes its course overnight. Therefore, soil conservation measure should be given top priority. Construction of spur to check soil erosion is found to be not practicable as the river changes its direction, course overnight and heavy amount to spent on those construction projects. Therefore, the entire amount will be wasted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer —not here. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): At the outset, I extend my heartfelt sympathy towards the millions of people who are suffering under the wave of flood in the States of Assam, Bihar and West Bengal. Since many Members will be speaking, I will concentrate my submission mainly on West Bengal.

Now in West Bengal, there are two waves of flood. In the first wave, these districts on the North side, namely West Dinajpur, Malda, Jalpaiguri, the plains of Darjeeling and Cooch Behar have been affected. This has already created a very serious problem to which, I will come later. But from the 10th of August, another set of severe rains actually created havoc and vast problems among these districts. Now, the district of West Dinajpur is like a vast sea of water with a few blocks here and there like islands, if you see from the air. I was visiting the Writers Building, our State Government headquarters and seeing the frantic efforts being made for air dropping and getting helicopters because West Dinajpur cannot be approached by any other route; neigher by road nor by rail. This is the situation. Almost all the blocks are affected and mainly Raiganj, Banshihari, Gangarampur, Tapan, Kaliaganj, Itahar are worst affected. The headquarters of the district, Balurghat is also under knee deep water. Now the problem is, how to reach Balurghat and how to reach the interiors of Balurghat or West Dinajpur from Calcutta or from their neighbouring districts and how to reach Balurghat itself. This has posed a very serious problem in the second wave of flood. All the rivers are still rising in that district.

Malda is another district where we have second round of flood. Incidentally, I should also report that the National Highway No. 34 is also under knee deep water in most of the places.

17.00 hrs.

Two bridges also are washed away. In Malda, the situation has been very complicated due to the dangerous rise of Ganga, river Mahananda and Foolhar which are tributaries of Ganga and which are having tremendous rise and already the district headquarters is water-logged to a great extent. All these blocks Bamangola, Gajole, Habibpur, Ratna, Manikchak, are also under water.

In this connection, I should point to the

[Smt. Geeta Mukherjee]

Minister for Irrigation that in the Farakka barrage, for strengthening the left bank of Ganga which is terribly eroding the bank, earlier it was decided by the Technical Committee that this bank will be particularly strengthened and that job was to be completed before monsoon. Unfortunately, that was not completed. Now the situation is that so much erosion is already there that the State Government is trying to give a ring-bund quickly with Rs. 40 lakhs. Rs. 10 lakhs have already been given for that. But it is very difficult at the moment. Heaven forbids, if it happens like this, if Ganga breaches the left bank, whatever is left of Maldah, will be a catastrophic affair. Nobody can prevent. I am sorry, if that happens, you will be responsible because strengthening could have been done. This is nothing new. At Manikcha Ganga is eroding for a long time. Therefore, this problem of Ganga erosion must be taken up by the Government seriously in the future also.

There were flash floods also in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar, as I had told earlier Had it not been possible to construct Tista barrage by the West Bengal Government it would have serious consequences for Jalpaiguri But to construct this Tista barrage in one year 70% of our annual budget for irrigation was eaten up. Tista takes 70% and the rest of West Bengal is only 30%. This is the situation with funds, about flood control and irrigation. But had we not been able to do that in Tista barrage, then Jalpaiguri district would have been very much more affected doubtlessly. But what happened is, due to incessant rains, Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar are also affected. Already, 46 lives are lost altogether in North Bengal and besides, many are reported missing. Deaths of cattle is estimated to be already 250 before this second flash floods. Total population affected is 30 lakhs and the total area affected is 3,000 sq. KM. Before the second flash of floods, our West Bengal Government opened 1,500 relief camps where 70 lakhs of people had already taken shelter. Now imagine, with this second wave, that I described, what is going to happen, what dimension the relief work has to take, if the first flash flood has already meant 70 lakh people in the relief camp. Even then our Government were trying to push up the relief work. Already in the first floods, more than 30 lakhs of people were coming to the relief camps and with this second wave, as I said, nobody knows how many will be coming, because most of the places are still marooned. In most of the places, people are marooned in those districts.

In this situation, naturally our Government are stepping up their efforts. But it goes without saying that the efforts will have to be stepped up very much more. In this background, the money position of our State is like this. The margin money that is lying with our State—according to the 8th Finance Commission—to meet the natural calamities is Rs. 11.75 crores. When it is spent, we will have to get another Rs. 11.75 crores from the Central Government. Sir, you please see the situation. Before the second flood started, Rs. 8 crores have already been spent. Therefore, it goes without saying that even with all the Rs. 23.50 crores that is our part of the margin money lying with us and the part of margin money that is due from the Central Government, even that will not at all be enough to meet the situation for both relief and rehabilitation.

Sir, with regard to our immediate problems like the availability of relief materials, I would like to point out that we need polythene sheets very much. Supply of this item by the IPCL in Calcutta is not enough. We have to get more polythene sheets from Gujarat. So, the Central Government should see to it that Baroda sends very much more quickly.

Regarding foodgrains, I would like to say that the foodgrains position must immediately be strengthened as far as relief operations are concerned. Medicines should also be rushed to the affected areas. Further, for taking up the immediate relief operations, we must get back the

margin money that is lying with the Centre. Rehabilitation requires a lot to be done. Construction of bunds, roads, buildings and giving subsidy to the people who have been rendered homeless, and construction of homes for the coming crop season—when the need arises—agricultural inputs, loans for agricultural operations—all these are to be guaranteed and with this Rs. 23.50 crores, all these cannot be done. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to immediately send a Central Team to see under what condition the five districts of West Bengal are existing. I would request that more grant should be sanctioned. I have given advance thanks to Dr. Dhillon when he said that if a drought comes to West Bengal, then the Central Govt. would be favourably partial towards it and not the other way round. Now, I would request that the words must match with the deeds. Already, the flood has played havoc there. Therefore, I think that the Central Government should immediately make preparations so that apart from this margin money, the money that is due to us, we can get substantial shares from the Central Government for meeting the situation.

I would like to point out another aspect. A lot has been said about the people living on the river banks, roads etc. etc. They are very good points. There is another aspect of the matter also. There are certain projects which need to be taken up promptly. For example there is the *Tangan* river, one of the main rivers in the *Malda* district. There is a scheme for Tangan pending for a long time i.e. since 1967. The scheme has been well worked out. But, as I said earlier, the Tista barrage took 70 per cent of our irrigation funds. Naturally, however much our effort, we could not take up the project of Tangan which needs to be taken up. Like Tangan, there are many other projects in these areas, small and medium, which really, if flood has to be controlled, have to be taken up seriously. Unless we get more assistance from Centre for irrigation and flood control purposes, it is quite impossible for the State to meet the entire situation.

With regard to the Ganga, I would like to point out that in this area one of the reasons for floods would be the Ganga's left bank, which is constantly eroded. The Ganga's erosion problem, we have been taking up for a long time with the Central Government. Unless the Central Government take it more seriously, it will be very difficult in future because that again, along with ring bunds and what not, will eat up the rest of our irrigation budget and the whole of South Bengal will be like this—sucking the thumb—because there are already very serious problems there. Therefore, this need immediate attention.

As I have already said, immediately a Central team should be sent there.

About Bihar, our friends will be speaking; I am not going into that. About Assam, I want to point out only one thing. I am not going into the extent of damage, the need for assistance and what that Government wanted. My friends from Assam will mention those things, though I also know the situation. But I want to stress one thing with regard to Assam. Everybody knows that the Bhrahmaputra is both, in a way, a blessing and also a great cause of distress when floods come to Assam. The Brahmaputra has been taken over by the Government of India by an Act of Parliament. But the funds that have been provided to the Brahmaputra Board are very meagre to meet the problem of flood control. Therefore, I request that more funds be provided to the Brahmaputra Board. If Assam's flood problem is really to be tackled, then the Brahmaputra Board has to be given much more money.

I hope that the other areas will not be engulfed by floods. But to meet the situation in the areas that have already been flooded, I request the Central Government to come out with much more liberal assistance than hitherto to reduce the miseries of the people there.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr.

[Shri Harish Rawat]

Chairman, Sir, I express my sympathies for the flood-affected people and urge the hon. Minister to provide adequate assistance to the affected States. These States should be given adequate and timely assistance.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): The Bihar Government is not doing anything. What can be done in this regard?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: The same is the state of affairs in West Bengal.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: It is not so in West Bengal.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Yadavji is saying that the Governments of Bengal and Bihar are not able to cope with the situation and they require more assistance. I was going to plead for West Bengal only. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Centre povides assistance in the flood affected areas and the State Governments also contribute to it but these funds are spent after the floods have already created havoc. Nothing is done to prevent them. Whatever amount is given for flood relief, I am speaking on the basis of my experience in Uttar Pradesh, the most of it is pocketed by officers who are responsible for controlling floods. It is shown that cement bags, boulders etc. put to check floods have been washed away. No account is maintained in this regard. On the one hand, floods damage life and property and on the other the funds allotted for flood relief works also go waste. The flood prone areas are already known. But in Bihar, those areas which are usually dry and where a lot of construction work has been done, have also been affected by floods this year and it should be investigated as to why it has happened. As regards the areas where floods are an annual feature, efforts should be made to see that minimum damage is caused by floods. Floods come every year and if we waste crores of rupees on relief works it will be meaningless.

Secondly, most of the rivers which are flooded, originate either from Nepal or from the Himalayas. By simply providing relief and without going into the root cause of the problem, we will not be able to prevent floods. For this purpose, steps will have to be taken to stop deforestation and for conservation of soil in Nepal. Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are affected by floods every year. Unless a programme for afforestation and soil conservation is implemented on a large scale in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh, we will not be able to control the flooding of the plains of Uttar Pradesh and our dams will go on facing problems. Rivers are filled with silt and crores of rupees have to be spent to desilt them. As the level of water increases in rivers due to silt so the threat of flooding remains. It is essential that the work in connection with the soil conservation and afforestation in the hill areas should be treated as a national necessity and should not be left to the State Governments. For this purpose should be released by the Planning Commission from the central exchequer. If we undertake afforestation and soil conservation work on large scale, the life span of our dams will also increase. I want also to request that those poor people who often settle down on both sides of rivers, do not get any warning about the approaching floods. Inhabitation on lands to a certain limit on either side of rivers should be banned. It can be controlled. Until we formulate a national plan to control floods and allocate funds for this purpose, floods will continue to ravage us every year and we will continue to discuss it every year as we are doing today. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, for seven days we discussed about the drought situation. Of course, the situation is really very very serious and unprecedented. Similarly, it has become a regular practice in this

House that every year we discuss about the droughts and the floods.

Floods are occurring every year in almost the same places—in Assam, Bihar and Bengal. In southern states very rarely it occurs. I remember very well that when the Hon. Minister was the irrigation Minister, while replying to the debate two years back on the Irrigation Ministry, he had said that the Government had spent more than Rs. 6000 crores for flood relief works. If we had spent that amount for some permanent works we would have certainly prevented the floods once for all. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the permanent plans the Government of India has to prevent recurring of such floods. In Brahmaputra river floods come every year. Everyday over the last two months there is not a single day on which television, radio and newspapers have not reported about the flood situation in Assam. This has become a perennial feature. I would like to know what steps the Government is taking to remove the sufferings of the people in Assam. The Chief Minister of Assam had issued a statement the other day. He was not happy or even prepared to participate in the Independence Day celebrations because he has been seeing with his own eyes the sufferings of thousands of people who have been uprooted and property worth crores of rupees has been damaged.

In early July he had asked the Government of India for a minimum assistance of Rs. 140 crores towards first flash floods. What is the reply from the Government of India? The Government of India gave a assistance of only Rs. 3.5 crores. Assam Government has already spent over Rs. 10 crores towards flood relief works. Similarly during the last October floods damage to crops and property is more than Rs. 200 crores and the assistance that was given by the Government of India is only Rs. 12 crores. I am surprised at the assistance given by the Government of India. It touches only the fringe of the problem. How can you expect the State Government to function effectively? All the development works have come to a standstill. Assam Government is headed by youngsters. They feel frustrated. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister and request him to do something.

17.22 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, only yesterday the hon. Minister along with the Chief Minister had flown over the flood affected areas of Bihar. After a survey he said that the position in Bihar is very very grim.

Sir, ours is a peculiar country. Whereas in some parts of the country we have severe drought in other parts we have floods. The flood situation is so serious that Army and Navy had to be called for the help and rescue of the flood stricken people. So I would request the Government of India to treat floods in the same way as drought situation. Floods should be treated on war-footing. More than 100 members have taken part in the drought debate but now simply because we are having two hours discussion on floods the Government should not get the impression that the flood situation is not serious. In West Bengal more than 2½ million people have been affected. In Bihar more than 1 million people have been affected. It is high time that Government of India must come out with a plan of action just as we have plan to meet the drought situation.

I would urge upon the Government of India to come out with a plan of action. I request the Hon'ble Minister that it should not just be routine reply which has been given by the Central Government all these years. It should be a concrete programme.

You know that particularly in the Brahmaputra valley, the floods are perennial. Therefore, all urgents steps should be taken so that the floods do not occur. That is very necessary. What is required is financial assistance.

[V.S. Krishna Iyer]

Sir, you know that we have got Branmaputra Board. I read from the newspapers that the first Master Plan report of this Board has been received. I would like to know what action has been taken on that. I learnt from one of the Hon'ble Members from Assam that no action has been taken on the first report. So, what is the use of having a separate independent board like the Brahmaputra Board. Sir, I urge upon the Government that mere platitudes will not help the people of Assam. They have lost confidence in all of us and in the Government of India. You must try to mitigate the sufferings of the people. They feel discriminated against. The people of Bengal are also feeling like that.

Sir, you know the resources of the State Governments are very limited. They can't print notes whereas the funds of the Central Government are flexible. If the Central Government does not come to the rescue of the States, who else will? If the father and the mother do not take care of their children, who else will? So, Sir, I request the Hon'ble Minister to study the whole thing carefully. I am sure he is going to tackle this problem on a permanent basis. That's what I request With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it appears that Nature is in a state of rebellion against this country because whiile we see extensive drought conditions in large parts of India, we also see, at the same time, flood situation in other parts of India. We have seen devastating floods in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal. The total number of deaths due to floods so far is about 150. Thousands of hectares of crops have been damaged Thousands of houses and cattle-heads have been washed away and lakhs of people are on the streets. Roads and rails have been disrupted almost everywhere.

Sir, I am not speaking much about Bihar and West Bengal because my friends from these areas will speak on that. To cut short my time, I confine myself to Assam. Nevertheless I must say that in Bihar, the flood has affected the whole of north Bihar including cities like Patna, Katihar and even Darbhanga. In West Bengal, the entire district of Cooch-Behar and West Dinajpur have been affected by floods. Naturally the situation in those areas is serious. In Assam, we are facing one of the worst floods this year. Not that this is the first flood that we are facing. Here every year we are facing the floods.

Here, every year, we are facing the floods. I will come to that subject. This is one of the worst because practically the whole Brahmaputra valley has been inundated by flood waters or rain water this time by the Brahmaputra and its tributaries. Dibrugarh town, the second most important town in Brahmaputra valley, has been threatened. Government has asked the jail authorities to take steps to remove the inmates of the jail to other areas and also the Assam Medical College to remove the indoor patients to other areas. It has not been done but Government have passed orders to take such steps to be in readiness in case the Dibrugarh town is affected or eroded by floods. That shows how serious the flood situation is. The Army had to be called out not once but several times.

The total extent of damage has not yet been quantified. I would like to know something from the Hon'ble Minister what is the total extent of damage so far caused by floods in Assam.

I hope they have got some idea about it. The immediate need is relief and rehabilitation and I need not explain this. There is need for extensive repairs to damages caused to roads and rails and supply of seeds, seedlings and fertilizers to the peasants so that at least they may prepare for the next rabi crop and maintain supply line of food and other essential articles as also medicine to these areas.

I may point out that in Assam, Bihar and

West bengal, a large number of areas have been completely cut off even by road links and relief measures cannot reach them. Yesterday, the Minister himself saw this in Bihar. Some steps should be immediately taken to restore the road links to those areas where relief is to be sent. The Minister of Water Resources very kindly visited Bihar and he saw the dvastation for himself. But why has he not visited Assam? What crime have we committed? Is it not his duty to go there? The Minister for Agriculture went there; the Minister of Water Resources should also visit Assam as also West Bengal and see for himself the damages caused in those States. That is his responsibility.

The financial assistance so far given to Assam is wholly inadequate as my friend, Shri Krishna Iyer just now said. I would urge upon the Central Government to give adequate financial assistance to meet the situation. The assistance so far given is not adequate at all. I hope the Minister in his reply will come forward to say that he is giving adequate financial assistance to Assam, Bihar and West Bengal, the States which are suffering from floods.

At the same time, there are reports that in earlier years, some State Governments—I do not want to name them—did not make proper use of the assistance given by the Centre and diverted funds for other purposes, for other reasons. I hope the Central Government will see that this time no such thing happens in any State whosoever may be in power in those States.

The basic question is: Why these floods in Assam and other places? Shri Krishna Iyer and Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee also mentioned that. Why these floods causing losses of crores of rupees every year? Apart from sufferings to lakhs and lakhs of human beings, loss of cattle and crops, the overall loss runs into crores of rupees every year. What is the cause? What is the reason? The basic cause is Brahmaputra river and its turbulent tributaries. Unless we control this river and its turbulent tributaries, this phenomenon will be there every year causing huge loss to the nation and people. This is the most important thing This river and its tributaries not only cause floods every year, what has become frightening today is the erosion of cities, villages and towns and affecting tea gardens also. I do not know what will Assam be after some years. May be it will be in the midst of this river itself if the erosion is not controlled. I have drawn the attention of Shri Shankaranand several times to this fact that this erosion has become more and more serious in Assam because of the Brahmaputra river and its tributaries. I hope, they will try to tackle it.

We are told that the Brahmaputra Board has drawn up a master plan. Just now my friend has mentioned that. It is true, but how can the Board execute a master plan if they are not given adequate finances? It is a huge task and it requires a lot of money. Fifteen years ago, Dr. Rao, the then Irrigation Minister told us in Rajya Sabha that he required Rs. 500 crores at that time to control this river. Two year later, Shri K.C. Pant—he is not here just now—told us that they would require Rs. 1,000 crores to control this river. I told him in the House not to talk in terms of crores. You are not going to spend Rs. 500 crores or Rs. 1000 crores in one year or in five years in any case! Have a long term plan, stretching over 20 to 25 years and start doing some work. Do not go on saying, "So much money will be required. From where shall we get it? Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry will not give it." This type of talk is absolutely irrelevant. Whatever amount is required, will be spent over a period of 20 or 25 years and not in five years So, please start the work today.

The so called Brahmaputra Board was constituted after a long agitation by the M.Ps. of Assam. But what for? No funds, no work! I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Brahmaputra Board has taken to execute its so called Master Plan. First of all, I would like to know what this Master Plan is. Are we not

[Shri Bipin Pal Das]

entitled to see the Master Plan? I know that this is a technical subject. I can understand it. But Sir, common people's experience also counts. I, my family and our forefathers were born and brought up on the banks of this Brahmaputra river. Similarly, thousands of people of Assam are living on its banks. Don't they have some experience about the behaviour of this river? Have we not seen this river for so many years? But nobody was consulted. They said that it was a technical subject. All right. Let it be a technical subject. But even after the plan was ready, could not we see it? Should it not be shown to us? We should know what is there in the master plan. But, we do not know uptill now what it is. The other day, when I asked my friend Shri Shankaranand, he said that it was such a big thing and he wondered as to where he could place it. I asked him to place it in the library and not to send it to my house. We will take care of it, we will go to the library, study it and try to understand things. But so far as my knowledge goes, I may be absolutely wrong, this Brahmaputra Board has not yet started implementing even a small part of the so called master plan. If anything has been done, the hon. Minister may please tell us about it.

Secondly, what happened to the proposed dams over Subansiri and Dihang? I know, Arunachal Pradesh raised some objections. But is it not possible for the Central Government to persuade the Government of Arunachal Pradesh to agree? These dams are vital not only for controlling Brahmaputra, but also for producing power. If the Subansiri and Dihang dams are completed, and power is generated, it will supply electricity not only to the North Eastern Region, but also to North Bengal, Bhutan, Sikkim and Bihar. 20,000 megawatts can be produced by these dams. But what happened to the proposal? Why can't a settlement be reached with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh to have these dams?

But at the same time I will say that hydel dams alone are not going to be a solution so far as the task of controlling the Brahmaputra river is concerned. Along with these dams, there must be retension dams, embankments, guide banks, spurs, revetments, irrigation channels, etc. at appropriate places in order to control this 800 km. long mighty river. More than these measures, unless there is an afforestation programme on both the sides of the river and on both the sides of its turbulent tributaries, we will not be able to check erosion. While talking on afforestation, I must make it clear that there are some kinds of trees which draw a lot of water, i.e. trees which require a lot of intake of water. There are some kinds of trees which release water. Those trees which release water or water vapour are fit for dry areas or drought affected areas. Those trees which will intake water, draw water from the soil will be fit for flood affected areas. Therefore, in selecting trees for afforestation these points must be taken note of.

Then regarding soil conservation measures, I need not go into that.

Regarding crop insurance, I would say, it is a must in an area like that or in all areas which are affected by flood or drought. In both cases, crop insurance is very important. Why Brahamputra is behaving like this? There was a great earthquake in 1950 in that area. The epicentre was in Arunachal Pradesh. It was a very severe earthquake. After the earthquake, because of silting of the river, the river bed came up. It came up very much. It not only happened in the main river but also in the tributaries. Therefore the water cannot flow easily It just spread out and flood and erosion take place. This was the basic reason. Therefore apart from all the measures which I have suggested just now, I strongly suggest dredging up rivers at appropriate points.

I am bold to say that, with a little scientific knowledge that I have got, without dredging of river at appropriate points, you will never be able to control the Brahmaputra river or divert it into proper direction. It

is impossible. So, dredging is very important so far as controlling of Brahmaputra river is concerned.

I have already said about the expenses and I need repeat them. Don't talk of huge expenditure which is required to control these rivers in Assam. You start the work with whatever amount you have at your disposal or whatever amount you have been given by the Planning Commission or the Finance Ministry. Start the work seriously. If you can make progress on your work, I think money will flow. Money will not stand on your way. The Planning Commission and the whole Government will see that the work is being started and progress is made and flood is being controlled. Then there will be no lack of money. Money will flow automatically. This is my conviction. This is my understanding of administration.

Therefore, I would appeal to the Hon. Minister to see that adequate assistance is given to the Government of Assam for relief, rehabilitation and all those things and to see that the money is spent in an appropriate manner for the purpose for which the money is given.

The Government should take immediate steps to see that the measures which I have suggested should be taken note of.

Finally, the control of Brahmaputra, activising it by giving enough funds to the Boards and to start implementation or execution of this so-called master plan is also very necessary and I hope the Government will take note of it.

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to send my sympathies to all the people who are suffering from floods in different parts of India.

Friends have already spoken on flood and given vivid description of the flood situation in different parts of India. So I know time is very limited, I will take only few points which I think is very important. I shall confine my talk only to West Bengal.

Devastating floods and heavy rains have claimed number of lives. In several parts of West Bengal, people are homeless, domestic animals have been washed away; jute, Paddy, vegetable and all other crops have been heavily damaged. A number of houses are under water and some houses were already damaged. Rail and road communications between these districts with the rest of West Bengal are cut off. Fodder for cattle and food for human consumption are not available. These are the damages which are caused by the floods. Whenever there is a flood, one can easily understand the condition of the people and also the animals. Unless proper care is taken immediately, there is the danger of epidemics breaking out. Even if there is no serious epidemic, after the flood people usually suffer from several diseases. So, immediately some precaution is needed. Medical centres must be opened.

As you know, after the floods, particularly children, nursing and pregnant mothers and old people suffer. People also suffer from malnutrition. Roads become unusable, after the floods, for a long time. That is my experience in the last flood, particularly in the district of Midnapore.

The relief work is not satisfactory. It was not satisfactory last year. It is not satisfactory this year also. In this connection, I would like to urge that relief should be given without any discrimination. I do not like to go into details, because I do not want to bring in all the things I have seen as a worker in the last year's floods. So, I do not want to go into details. My request is that you should see that whatever happened last year, should not be allowed to happen now. There should not be any discrimination. *(Interruptions)* I do not want to say more on this.

I would request that after the floods, a list should be prepared properly. I use the word 'properly' again. People who suffered

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

should be helped. Medical arrangements must be started immediately. Otherwise people will suffer. To deal with malnutrition, a programme for children, pregnant and nursing mothers must be arranged from now itself, so that they do not suffer more after the flood.

I would like to make an appeal to the West Bengal Government, and to the Central Government. To the West Bengal Government I would like to say that there should not be any discrimination when relief is given. Medical units must start work in right earnest now, immediately.

Arrangements for fodder are very much needed. Water is not there. I have already said that a list should be prepared; apart from that, people who have lost their houses should be helped.

I would like to point out very strongly that the agriculturist must be helped as soon as water recedes. Otherwise, we will suffer next year, for want of crops. The help that is needed actually, should be decided by the technical people concerned.

I would like to say that roads should be repaired. Even now, the roads which were damaged last year, have not been repaired.

To the Central Government I would make an earnest request, that the National Water Policy must be declared very soon. It cannot be postponed year after year. Here I would like to say that a proper plan for irrigation throughout India has to be made. The point is not whether we can start the work immediately; there should be a master plan throughout India. Otherwise, this type of flood or drought would go on and on. It is a pity that one part of India is suffering from drought and another part of India is suffering from floods.

I hope I will be excused if I say that we are very proud of our scientists in our country because of scientific progress which the country has made in several fields. I am sure, with the progress of technology and with the scientific knowledge that we have in our country, if government takes proper care and see that these problems are solved, I am sure, our scientists will be able to solve these problems.

We are spending a lot of money every year either for drought or for floods. If we can pool that money and ask our scientists that these problems they have to solve, I am sure, sooner or later, they will be able to solve these problems; and India, in the near future, will not suffer from drought or floods. A permanent solution is needed for these things It is no use spending crores of rupees every year for floods or drought and all these things My earnest request to the government is to find out some permanent solution to these problems and also a plan should be prepared The work may be started. I know there will be difficulties to give all the money together If the work is started, it will be finished and I am sure India in the near future will not suffer from floods and drought, as we are doing year after year. With these words I conclude. I have made my earnest request to the Central Government and to West Bengal Government through you for solving these problems.

SHRI M. R. SAIKIA (Nowgong): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I express my deep sympathy for the millions and millions of people of Assam. West Bengal Cooch Behar, Bihar and some parts of Jammu & Kashmir.

Assam, as it is well-known, is a flood prone State. This year, the people of Assam have been facing the worst floods three times during this current monsoon reason. The first flood started towards the end of June and continued upto the middle of July. During this period, the devastating flood caused huge and extensive damage to the standing crops such as jute, paddy kharif, seeds, etc. Thousands and thousands of house were damaged; roads, bridges, school buildings were also des-

troyed; roads and bridges were damaged resulting in dislocation of means of communications. Thousands and thousands of people were shifted to safer places and were rendered homeless. In order to cope up with the situation, civil authorities had to take the help of the army. Army boats were pressed into service to rescue the marooned People. In some areas such as Majuli and North Lakhimpur, helicopters were deployed to air drop food and other relief materials. The Government of Assam have submitted a memorandum to the Government of India on the 17th of July stating the damage caused by devastating floods and asking for financial help. But the Government of India remained silent; they did not respond to the request made by the Assam Government.

Then the second flood came and inundated the entire Brahmaputra Valley particularly Mongodai. In Nowgong District, several people of Majai Sub-division and Morigong Sub-division of Nagar were washed away by floods causing extensive damage to the life and properties of the People. People were shifted to the embankments. Thouands and thousands of people had to be shifted to the higher lands. Not only human beings, thousands and thousands of cattle were shifted to higher places, higher reaches and hundreds of cattle were washed away by floods.

Then, again due to incessant heavy rainfall the water of Brahmaputra and its tributaries have been rising fast and inundated entire Brahmaputra valley, from Sadyats Dhubri districts. As you would have read in the newspapers, the Army help has been taken by the civil auhorities and Army boats have been used for rescue and relief operations right from Sodia to Dhubri and in Majuli area. Thousands and thousands of people have been marooned by the surging waters of Brahmaputra, thousands and thousands of people have been shifted to the highlands, and highways. Temporary relief camps—hundreds of relief camps—have been set up in the two districts of Mangaldoi and Dhubri Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, North Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Nagaon and Darang to provide shelter to thousands and thousands of people whose dwelling houses have been inundated.

Right from June, till this day the floods are continuing. May I know from the hon. Minister of Water Resources what crime the people of Assam have committed, that he did not care to visit this State during such a long period of floods? So, it clearly indicates how far and to what extent the Government of India is sincere about the welfare of the common people in Assam where lakhs and and lakhs of people have been living under water, having been rendered homeless. They have taken shelter on the national highway, and on high lands, thousands and thousands of cattle have been shifted to the highlands. I can give you one instance in Majuli which is one of the largest rivers island in the world where 25,000 cattle have been shifted to the high lands and more than one lakh of people have been marooned by the surging waters of Brahmaputra and helicopters have been used to air drop food and relief supplies.

In Kaziranga National Park, hundreds and hundreds of wild animals, like deer and pigs have been washed away; thousands and thousands of deer and pigs have been shifted to the adjoining hillock. This is the third time during the same monoon season that Kaziranga is under the grip of a flood. The flood has caused lot of damage, and as stated by my colleague Shri Bipin Pal Das the river Brahmaputra and its tributaries are responsible for this devastating damage. In the last Budget session I spoke about the problems of Assam which is the victim of floods and perennial waters. I pointed out to the Minister of Water Resources the problems created by the Brahmaputra and its turbulent tributaries. May I ask how sincere the Government of India is and what was the purpose of setting up the Brahmaputra Board. The Brahmaputra Board was consi-

[Shri M.R. Saikia]

tuted to prepare a plan after a study and survey of the area in order to control the floods in the Brahmaputra and to prepare a Master Plan for Assam. But nothing has been taken up so far.

18.00 hrs.

My colleagues here will be surprised to know that only Rs. 33 crores have been allotted to the Brahmaputra Control Board. What for? For the maintenance of its establishment? The hon. Minister must know that the maintenance of its establishment does not necessarily lead to flood control. To control the river Brahmaputra and its tributaries, it requires thousands of crores of rupees. The Government of Assam, after the first wave of floods, submitted a memorandum stating the damages and requested the Government to extend financial help of Rs. 140 crores as an ad hoc grant. But instead of Rs. 140 crores, the Government of India sanctioned only Rs. 3.5 crores. Is it not a mockery? It clearly indicates the degree of sincerity and honesty on the part of Government of India towards the welfare of the common people. The people of Assam have suffered from floods created by the mighty river Brahmaputra. And after 40 years of our independence nothing has been done for the welfare of the people of Assam. We have been talking of national integration. We are talking of development and growth of feeling of oneness among the Indian people. How could they expect development and growth of feeling of oneness?

I would like to remind one thing. India is a federal State consisting of 25 units. It is like a living organism. The development and growth of a living organism depends upon the growth and development of different organs of the organism and on the active cooperation of different organs. If active cooperation of different organs is not forthcoming, how could you expect the development of the organism as a whole? Similarly, in the case of India, if we want to develop India as a whole, if we want to think about the welfare of the people of India as a whole, then we will have to think for the development of different units of this federal state equally. If you fail to develop any particular unit, then you will not be able to develop the country as a whole. It amply proves with what degree of sincerity and honesty you think in terms of the welfare of the country.

I am speaking with bitterness from my past experience. I am a Member of Parliament today. But I participated in the national movement. I have been working for the welfare of the society for many years. I have sacrificed a lot for the good of the people. I have seen with my own eyes what you have done during the last 40 years of our independence. Therefore, at this grave situation, we have seen the entire State in the grim grip of floods. Millions and millions of people have been rendered homeless. Thousands and thousands of cattle have been washed away. Roads and bridges have been damaged. The State, for the last few days, remained cut off from the rest of the country. But the Government of India did not move at all. Out of Rs. 140 crores, sanctioning Rs. 3.5 crores, is it a help? Is it a sincerity to help the people of Assam? You have seen the situation in Assam particularly in North Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Sibsagar, Nowgong, Sunitpur, Darang districts. What steps have been taken so far to give relief to the flood stricken people? Have you not considered over this? Therefore, my humble suggestion is this. If you want to develop the organism as a whole i.e. the entire federal state of India, then you should come forward with adequate financial help to rehabilitate the people, who have lost their houses and other properties, recoup the damage for restoration of the economy of the State and for relief measures.

In this respect I have to say that it is too late now for the kharif crops to be culti-

vated. People have to prepare their lands for the cultivation of Rabi crops and for that purpose they require adequate and liberal financial help. The economic condition of the small and marginal farmers in Assam is deplorable. They are acquainted with traditional methods of cultivation. They cultivate their lands with a pair of bullocks and a wooden plough. But how can those small and marginal farmers who have lost their bullocks in the flood, cultivate their lands? Probably you know, Sir, that the cost of a pair of bullocks is minimum Rs. 5,000. Those poor farmers who have taken loans from the banks, are not able to pay back, what to talk of principal, even the interest So, the Government of India should make provisions for providing financial help to those poor farmers. Moreover, the Rabi crops will be available only after February next year and from this date till February, how will those people be able to live on? Therefore, financial provisions should be made for maintenance of those people from now onwards till February.

Efforts should be made for generating employment in flood affected areas. All efforts should be made to make available foodgrains and fooder—fodder for the cattle and foodgrains for the people of the State.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is already more than six O'clock, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the morning itself it was announced that the House will sit up to 7 O'clock in the evening We are having a lot of other business and therefore this was decided in the morning itself.

Now Shri Golam Yazdani.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the Government to the awful state of affairs which is being experienced in the flood affected areas. Flood is not an unknown thing. We know floods come every year, but we cannot be careful how to just cope with these floods or to prevent them, and that is why the floods are occurring. We do not try to prevent the floods which are occurring nowadays.

In the northern parts of the country, this time the flood has come due to incessant rains. For the last three weeks there have been incessant rains. All the rivers of North Bengal have been inflated by these incessant rains and, as a result, there have been floods. The neighbouring parts of Assam and even Bihar also have been inundated by these floods. I want to limit my speech to West Bengal only. We see that all the five districts of North Bengal, namely, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Darjeeling, West Dinajpur and Malda have been affected. I may tell you that unfortunately 95 per cent of my constituency is under water in West Dinajpur and Malda. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister about the state of affairs prevailing in West Dinajpur and Malda as West Dinajpur, Malda and other parts of West Bengal are worst effected.

In West Dinajpur, the towns of Balurghat and Raiganj are almost under water. There is a vast sea of water. Malda - half of the blocks has been badly effected - for example Bamangola, Gajole, Habibpur, Ratna, Harish - Chanderpur, Part of Chanchal. West Dinajpur - Dalkola to Islampur, Chopra these places have been effected. Stream of flood water is seen passing over the roads of Dalkola and important bridges near Raiganj town - Kolak Bridge and one bridge near Dalkola—these been washed away. There had been poor attempt to repair this bridge near Dalkola. But it has again given way. There is an attempt to repair bridge near Dalkola. But it has not been repaired. As a result of this, flood water is found from Malda, West Dinajpur upto Chopra—different of parts of NS 34 have been under water. Communication has been cut off and road links have been suspended. From Kalyanganj to Radhikapur railway line has been under 5 to 6' of water. Rail service have been impaired.

[Shri Golam Yazdani]

Northern-Eastern parts of the country are almost cut off from rail communication.

Flood has not come at once. It has come in three instalments First instalment, second and then third. In third instalment new areas have been inundated. The most effected areas are Itahar in West Dinajpur, Gajole in Malda. In Itahar the officer has admitted that there are more than two lakh people who have been marooned along with cattle and domestic animals. In Gajole more than thirteen gram panchayats have been under water. In Gajole flood has come because of breakage of Mahananda *bandh*. Flood is due to rivers Tangon, Punarbhava, Atri, Testa, Mahananda and Phulhar.

Mahananda *bandh* is not being inspected or cared for regularly. There are rat holes in many places of this *bandh*. We can see rat holes, but they are not being repaired in time. When the flood comes, these holes get enlarged. For this extreme negligence who is responsible? These things are happening.

People are suffering because most of the said areas are marooned. Lakhs and lakhs of people are suffering. There is no arrangement for their rescue. The country boats are not available. The motor boats are not suitable for the purpose. This is the main problem faced by the people there in carrying out the relief measures. Every year, we find that we are short of country boats. Why are the country boats not procured and kept ready to meet the situation? This time also it is found that motor boats are brought for transportation purpose and the country boats are not available. I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that country boats are most suitable for carrying foods and other essential commodities to the flood victims who are marooned in the midst of vast sheet of waters. But the country boats are not available. I would like to draw the attention of the Government that there are heavy losses, both human lives and cattle in the recent flood. No doubt, in West Dinajpur and Malda, about 36 people died due to flood. But in the whole of Northern region of Bengal, the death toll is about 200. There is a huge loss of men and material. The poor people are in great distress and necessary relief measures should be provided immediately.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can wind up now.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: For a discussion on drought, this House took so many days and for floods, we should be given at least two days more.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to give chance to others also. Please wind up.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Now, Sir, regarding relief measures, I would like to point out that the District magistrate of Malda put up a demand of about 40,000 tarpaulin sheets. But the authorities could supply only about 4000 sheets. There have been incessant rains in the area and the people have been moved to suitable camps But those camps are open and they will have to be covered with tarpaulin sheets. The affected people cannot be kept in open place and expose them to the heavy rains. Is it a humane attitude? I cannot understand how the authorities could pay scant attention to the suffering people in these areas. Every year in the month of April, the meeting is held and the possible requirements to meet the flood situation are discussed. But still when we ask for 40,000 polythene sheets, they could supply only 4000 sheets. They say that they do not have enough number of polythene sheets because they are not produced in West Bengal and they have to be procured from elsewhere. But why don't you keep these polythene sheets in West Bengal well in advance? We have been saying every year about the requirement of these sheets. We had mentioned this point last year. We have said the same thing this year also. Next year also we will lay stress on the requirement of polythene sheets.

But still no advance action has been taken in this respect so far.

Now, Sir, food and other essential commodities can be supplied to the marooned people, but because of non-availability of country-boats, transportation of these items could not be easily done. For transportation of these items to the affected people, motor boats are not suitable. Every year we have been saying that country boats are not available. The country boats can easily reach the people marooned in the flood waters. So, this fact is to be kept in mind while considering relief measures to help these people who are in great distress. Otherwise, there is no meaning of only discussing floods. More money should also be given. When you do not have money, how can you purchase these things and meet the requirements?

Another point which I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Irrigation Minister is, there is a point in Ratua where the bund is very vulnerable and it requires repairing. But they do not do repairing until and unless this area is flooded. Repairing can be done in the month of April or May but the thing is, those people who want to do repair work will not get so much of profit in April or May. When flood comes, they start doing the repairing work so that they can pocket more money. So, the attention of the Government should be drawn to the fact that those weak points should be repaired in good time. For example, I can say at Mainapur in Manikchak, there is a weak point and there is likely to be a breach; it should have been repaired long ago in the month of April or May. But now it is going to be repaired when they require more boulders. That means more money to the contractor and more profit. Attention of the Government should be drawn to this aspect.

They have constructed the Farakka barrage. What is the after-effect, they are not going to care? They must keep a vigil on every bund and whenever there is a weak bund, that should be repaired well in time in the month of April or May. Then only, you can give relief to these people. New areas are going to be affected. You can also understand the situation. You have seen the flood. The condition of the people is worse.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: You should provide relief to the people and take preventive action so that next year the same thing may not be repeated. That is the thing that I want to impress upon. They should see, how to prevent floods.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): This discussion can continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTRY SPEAKER: Let us sit up to 7 O'clock and then we can see. Up to 7 O'clock, the discussion can continue. We will see afterwards.

Shri G. Bhoopathy.

[*Translation*]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY (Peddapalli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the one hand, there is drought and on the other, there is heavy rainfall creating a very grave situation in the country. It is now for the Central Government to control it.

The flood ravaged states send their reports to the Central Government regarding the extent of the damage. On receipt of a report the Centre sends a Central team to assess the damage. That team visit that area and after discussing with the Government and the public representatives of that area makes an assessment of the total loss. Against a loss of Rs. 100 crores, the Centre releases only Rs. 10 crores which is also not properly utilised by the State Government. As a result of floods, railway lines, houses of the poor, school buildings etc. are washed away. There are such individuals, who do not own any land and who take money from Government by putting up bogus applications and wrong memoranda. It is not known how many crores of rupees might have been spent from the

[Shri G. Bhoopathy]

Government ex-chequer on rehabilitation after independence. I would like that this thing may be stopped.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that in order to prevent floods in the country, the former Union Minister of Irrigation, Dr. K.L. Rao had made a scheme of which you are well aware. If that scheme is not good, then our hon. Minister, Shri Shankaranand, may himself make any other scheme and implement it so that floods are prevented and the people heaved a sigh of relief. There had been a loss of about Rs. 40 crores in my constituency where the Dakshin Express met with an accident. All roads, school buildings and houses of individuals in the area have been destroyed. I would like to request the Central Government to send a central team to the area to assess the quantum of loss caused there and assist the people of the area in view of the loss suffered by them.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I express my gratitude to the hon. Minister, Shri Shankaranand for his making an aerial survey of North Bihar in these days of sorrow and suffering. The miseries of the people there, which he unfolded to the journalists at Patna in a painful voice, will touch the heart of any reader. The hon. Minister has rightly said that the entire North Bihar is in the grip of floods and it needs maximum assistance. Through you, I would like to request the Hon. Prime Minister to make an aerial survey of North Bihar and see the difficulties of the people. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell you that the hon. Minister may go through the newspapers of last 8 to 10 days wherefrom he will come to know that in North Bihar, especially, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Purnea, Saharsa, Motihari, Sitamarhi, Samastipur, Muzaffarpur... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: The Prime Minister should also visit the flood-affected areas of Assam.

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: My sympathies go to the flood-affected people of Assam.

But the condition of North Bihar is very miserable. On hearing the latest news I was thinking of visiting my constituency, but I was not able to go because the roads have been washed away. The trains have also been stopped. As has been published in the newspapers, food packets are being dropped from helicopters. There is water and water every where and the helicopter men are in a fix where to drop the food packets, so that the people may get them. Only after 10 to 15 days when floods recede, it will be known as to how many people have been washed away and how many people have lost their lives. So far as the loss of the cattle is concerned, their number is uncountable. It is the first time during the last 60 to 70 years when such a furious flood has visited the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Saharsa in North Bihar. We have not been able to realise this problem a little more seriously, because 3/4th area of the country is facing drought. The people are so affected by drought that as they are not able to understand as to what havoc the flood has played in the remaining 1/4th area of the country.

It has appeared in the national newspapers that the people including pregnant ladies and sick persons have been sitting on trees for the last 6 to 7 days so much so that it is raining from above and they have no food to take. The situation has never been so adverse earlier. I would like to tell that though the Central Government has provided helicopters and extended military assistance, yet it is not enough. More helicopters, foodgrains and medicines should be provided there. They are human beings and should not be left to the mercy of God. Their condition is very miserable. They have been so marooned that nobody can rescue them from there. They are

unable to come here and unfold their miseries. When the hon. Minister gives his reply, he will narrate the sufferings of the people he witnessed there. In the district of Madhubani, there is nothing visible except water. The condition there is very miserable.

I would like to submit to you that instead of thinking of long term measures, we should rescue the marooned people who have been trapped there as people are trapped in accidents. They should be rescued and provided with goods, clothes, medicines and other facilities. Only then we should think of long-term measures. There are floods every year when we hold discussions in this House and express our sorrow on the sufferings of the people. But no measures are found to prevent them. All the rivers in North Bihar, whether it is the Kosi, the Gandak, the Buri Gandak, the Mahananda or the Kamalbalan, originate from Nepal. Several times discussions have been held that if reservoirs are constructed in Nepal, all these rivers can be controlled and thereby we can generate more electricity for the economic development of Nepal. We can generate 2000 mw electricity which will be more than enough not only for Nepal but also for the entire North India. This is for the future and not for to-day. If we implement this scheme after giving due thought to it, it will undoubtedly check floods and the excess water thus stored will prove to be a boon to us. For this purpose we can get loan from the World Bank also and this is the high time for it.

By signing an accord with Sri Lanka you have shown that we can cordially live in South Asia. All the countries of this region including Nepal have praised this accord. They are prepared to co-operate with India. I have received a letter from Shankaranand that talks are being held with Nepal to construct reservoirs to control the flooding of all the rivers. I would like to tell that this may please be done as early as possible, otherwise these rivers will play havoc. As it is, the condition of North Bihar is very bad and everytime whatever development is made, it is being washed away by floods. Instead of leaving the people to the mercy of the fate, something should be done for them.

A lot of bungling is indulged into the name of providing relief in this area. Whether the relief is given by the State Government or the Central Government, it should reach the needy people.

Sir, we have been talking about the Ganga-Cauvery project. Why do we not start work on it. Floods come, because we have no control over Nepal. Secondly, there is much rainfall in catchment areas of the rivers that all the rivers are filled with water. Due to silting, the Ganga does not have the capacity of bearing the water of all the rivers. At the same time, there are some regions in the country where there is shortage of water and this is why Dr. K.L. Rao had said that the Ganga and the Cauvery rivers should be linked. It would have involved an expenditure of Rs. 500 crores. But now it will require much more money. This Ganga Cauvery project should be implemented so that water could be supplied to the South. This will not only check floods in these regions but also make more water available for irrigation. You may please prepare a scheme for linking rivers. If it is started now, then after 20 to 25 years the coming generation will certainly think that we have done something. Every year the funds, which are allocated for flood relief measures, are either pocketed by the contractors or by the Officers. What benefit do the people get out of it.

There is a provision for insurance of industrial and agriculture workers. It is my submission that all the people and the cattle in the flood prone areas should be brought under the insurance cover. Why should they face havoc every year? Why should they go on suffering loss of property and crops. The insurance premium may be given either by the State Government or by the Central Government. We cannot ignore these flood affected and unlucky people. Suppose somewhere a dam collapses, the river bank breaches at a

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

distance of 25 kms and water reaches the houses overnight, where the people are sleeping. Even today there is 8 feet high water in Madhubani, Saharasa and Jhanjharpur. Water is flowing over the house tops. At this moment the Magistrate goes to the people and asks them to vacate immediately. People become helpless, but where they should go from there. They have no other accommodation. They should be brought under an insurance cover so that they may get some compensation against the loss suffered by them.

Lastly, I would like to say that you may please look into this serious problem and take some short-term as well as long-term measures so that the people may get some relief.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not really making a long speech because there is no time.

My colleague was saying that we should think about long-term plan later. But I would come to long-term plan first, because this country suffers all the time from the vagaries of nature; in one part there will be floods and in another part there will be drought. Unless there is a coordinated effort, unless there is planning in a big way, unless there is a qualitative change in planning itself, we cannot achieve much. I would suggest that we must have some organisation at the Centre—you may call it the Central Flood Fighting Authority or Organisation; I do not know what you will call it, but there should be some authority because whenever there are floods in a State, it cannot be left to the Chief Secretary or some other bureaucrat to pick up the telephone and talk to Delhi. And, by the time some kind of relief arrives there, much damage will have been done to thousands of people. The time lag puts MPs, Legislators, the Chief Minister and other Ministers to great shame because it may spread to months together. So, if we have a Central Authority, they receive information may be through telephone and say that the team must move, relief must go, tents must go, medicines must go and so on.

I saw a difficult situation in Jammu and Kashmir. There were floods in Jammu and Kashmir state, in some parts of Jammu but particularly the Kashmir valley was devastated by floods. Ultimately we may not suffer because we don't depend more on monsoons as other parts of the country. We have some water running where the paddy fields are there. The damage to the paddy crops may not be there. But already we have suffered a lot from the floods. I don't suppose that we got the relief which we deserved.

The shocking situation is that our Dal Lake was totally devastated. We have some people who had encroached into the Dal Lake and all those people suffered because of that encroachment spreading over two decades. Now, after two decades, we got the worst floods and the lake was devastated. Those people who went to Dal Lake and spoiled it want us to get them out of that Lake and settle them somewhere else. So, the flood problem has been connected with their settlement and rehabilitation. How can the Hon. Minister understand the situation because the Central Team which visited Srinagar... (*Interruptions*)... You understand how the Central Team visits.

A Central Team comes after a lot of weeping on the part of the victims. They say that it is the duty of the State Government to project its demands before the Central Government. The nation is one, the country is one. It is the duty of anybody who is responsible at the Centre to send the team without asking and see what is happening there. When the team comes, bureaucrats come and talk to their counterpart bureaucrats. Never has any MP been associated with discussion. It must go

on record. I represent seven lakhs of people who suffered. We are three MPs from that valley; we were not called. These bureaucrats talk to bureaucrats and they go to the secretariat, have a cup of coffee and Kabab and then return to Delhi.

They don't take us into confidence... (*Interruptions*)... The job of preparing the schedule indicating the loss is again left to the bureaucrats. We don't know what happens since we are public men and we are not associated with it.

The whole system should be institutionalised. You hand over every process to the bureaucrats who are not responsible to the people. That is why delay in sanctioning of relief, delay in assessment of damage take place. We are responsible to the people and therefore the Hon. Minister should take notice of what I am saying. Whenever a team is sent, it must be obligatory for it to consult the MPs concerned.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: And MLAs also.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Thereafter the relief should be sanctioned. As far as Kashmir valley is concerned, my information is that—I am correct and if he calls me I can give correct information to the Minister—adequate relief has not gone there. Providing rehabilitation to those people has not been undertaken because it requires a massive funding. If you take this into consideration and take some measures, we would be solving two problems. Firstly it gives relief to the victims and we would also be solving the problem of Dal Lake which is the beauty of Kashmir. We attract international tourists there. We should solve the problem of pollution also. So, I invite your attention not only for solving the problem of these victims, but also the problem of encroachment in order to keep the Dal Lake pure.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think you will be a little kind to me because I represent a constituency which is highly flood-prone, the Damodar Valley area of the State of West Bengal. It is true that this year my area has not yet been affected by floods till now. Sir it is reported that flood-prone areas in the country today comprises about 65 million hectares. Ten years ago it was only 40 million hectares. So there is an increase of 25 million hectares during these 10 years. This shows how serious is the problem.

Now what is the approach of the Government to the problem. Government is taking fire-fighting attitude. They are not dealing with the root of the problem.

Sir, for the flood affected people it is the same story every year. Millions of people get affected by floods. Embankments get breached. Bridges get washed away. Lives are lost. Live-stock gets perished. Army is called for rescue and relief operations. There are aerial surveys by the State and Central Government. Then a Central team goes to the State to assess the damage. Now this is the same old story every year. Every year we discuss the flood situation in the House but there is no solution to the real problem.

Sir, the extent of damage due to floods in the States and Union territories—31 States and Union territories— is Rs. 249160.5 lakhs in the year 1983. In the year 1985 the extent of damage is Rs. 405926.8 lakhs. In the year 1986 the extent of damage is Rs. 347220.7 lakhs. Each year the extent of damage is increasing. Now how we are operating the flood protection works. It is revealed from the records that during the year 1983-84 twenty-one States spent over the flood control works about Rs. 9259. 03 lakhs out of which Central loan assistance is only Rs. 2103.50 lakhs. In the year 1984-85 these States spent Rs. 11630.12 lakhs and the Central assistance is to the tune of Rs. 2750.00 lakhs. In the year 1985-86 the anticipated expenditure of these States was Rs. 12878.5 lakhs out of which Central assistance is only Rs. 2131.00.

Sir, in this connection I want to bring it to the notice of the house the attitude of the Central Government towards some of the

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States particularly the States ruled by non-Congress Governments. You see the plight of the West Bengal Government. During 1983-84 the West Bengal Government spent Rs. 1364.01 lakhs out of which Central assistance is Rs. 160 lakhs. In the year 1984-85 West Bengal spent Rs. 974.46 lakhs out of which Central assistance is Rs. 66.84 lakhs. In the year 1985-86 West Bengal spent Rs. 1990 lakhs and the Central assistance is nil. This is the state of affairs.

Sir, the Central Government is not taking the correct view to the problem. Coming to the flood situation I sincerely sympathise with the flood affected millions of people in the States of Bihar, Bengal, Assam and Jammu and Kashmir.

Now I shall confine myself mostly to the problems of West Bengal. My hon'ble colleague Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has spoken on the flood situation in the West Bengal. In the northern part of Bengal, the districts of Cooch Behar, Malda, Jalpaiguri and West Dinajpur are facing serious floods. In the southern Bengal, we are also facing a serious problem of drought. There is a shortfall of rains in the sourthern part of Bengal.

In the northern part in West Dinajpur district, the problem is very serious because the whole area has taken the shape of a sea. It is very difficult to approach the district headquarters also, as has been told by Shrimati Gitaji. The flood relief supplies are sent to West Dinajpur from Malda. In the district of West Dinajpur, due to incessant rains in the catchment area, the rivers Purnabhava, Phular and Artreye have caused serious floods in the West Dinajpur and Mahananda a tributary of Ganga river has caused serious floods in the district of Malda. The State Government is taking all the necessary measures for relief and rescue operations in those areas.

Now coming to the flood situation in Assam, the problem is very serious because of the turbulent river Brahmaputra and its tributaries. They could not be tamed. Heavy rains in the catchment area of the Brahmaputra and its tributaries caused serious floods in the whole of Assam. The Assam Government has already submitted its memoranda asking for the Central assistance. There should be a positive response from the Central Government.

But what is the key problem in this area? The key problem of the Assam flood lies in the indiscriminate cutting down of the forests in the catchment area of the Brahmaputra and its tributaries. If there is indiscriminate cutting of forests, it leads to a higher rate of soil erosion resulting in silting of the rivers. The beds of the rivers rise. Therefore, flood control devices like embankments are affected and will be of no use. The water will overflow and damage the embankments or will cause breaches.

The Central Government assumed the responsibility of flood problem of the Brahmaputra river. It constituted the Brahmaputra Board in the year 1980 by an Act. The Brahmaputra Board has also submitted some of the schemes. We are told that Master Plan Phase-I submitted by the Board is awaiting the approval of the Central Government. I don't know the result. Why has that Master Plan been circulated to so many persons for their opinion? That Plan has not been sanctioned so far. That should be sanctioned as early as possible because without taming the river Brahmaputra and its tributaries, you cannot control the flood situation of Assam.

Now we have to take some short-term as well as long-term measures. The short-term measures include relief and rescue operations and also the construction work. For this, all the departments of the Government— Department of Food & Supply, Department of Rural Development, Department of Agriculture— should make a coordinated effort to tackle the problem so that the relief and rescue measures and

the construction work taken up by the State Government can be strengthened. Thus the people can get relief quickly.

Under the long-term measures, an emergency drive to plant trees in the denuded catchment areas should be taken up on a priority basis. There are so many national policies which are announced by the Government-- the National Education Policy, the New Economic Policy. I do not understand why there cannot be a National Flood Control Policy of the Government. In the year 1982-83, the Government published the report of the Jaisukh Lal Hathi Commission on flood control. It is the casual approach of the Government that is responsible for this problem. All possible long-term measures should be taken to overcome this problem.

Coming to the State of West Bengal, I would like to state that there are so many flood control and irrigation schemes which the State Government has already sent to the Central Government and those have been awaiting approval since long. One such project is Teesta Barrage project. More than Rs. 180 crores have already been spent by the Government of West Bengal and they have been asking for Central assistance for this project. You have, however, given only Rs. five crores in the last three years. This has compelled the State Government to divert a lot of its funds from the budget to complete this project. Then, the Farrakha Barrage project. The erosion created in the down stream of the Farrakha Barrage is causing a serious threat to a lot of area. This is affecting eleven blocks in the districts of Murshidabad, namely Farrakha, Shamsherpur, Raghunathganj etc. The river banks are eroded due to continuous erosion of the Ganga river and eleven blocks are in danger. The Farrakha Barrage authorities have already submitted a scheme to the Central Government authorities, but that scheme has been kept pending.

Now, I come to my area, the lower Damodar Basin area, a highly flood prone area. Rivers like Mandeshwari, Damodar, Roop Narain etc. pass through my constituency. In the year 1979, the Government of West Bengal submitted a scheme to the Central Government for its approval. It is now 1987 and ten years have passed away since then. However, that revised flood control scheme has not been cleared by the Government of India so far. In answer to an Unstarred question, the Minister had stated that the required clarifications had not been submitted by the Government of West Bengal, and therefore, they could not clear the project. In July this year, Shri Sukh Ram, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning wrote to my colleague, Shri Hannan Mollah that the project has not been cleared by the Planning Commission because the State Flood Control Board has not given its approval to the scheme and the State Budget has not provided any funds for this scheme. Immediately, we rushed to the State Government and we enquired from the Irrigation Department. We were told that they have already sent an intimation to the Central Government that the scheme has been approved by the State has been approved by the State Flood Control Board. It is a procedural matter; nothing more. Already, a sum of Rs. 7 crores has been provided in the State Budget. We do not understand why the project has not been cleared.

Most of the State Governments are sending their flood control and irrigation schemes to the Union Government and those have been lying here. The Minister in one of the meetings of the Consultative Committee stated that the CWC had issued as many as 1500 flood warnings this year. What is the use of issuing flood warning systems if you do not control the floods and do not sanction the schemes and go to the root cause of the floods. How will you be able to control the floods. People of West Bengal, Bihar, district of Madhubani etc. will go on shouting every year and the Minister will give a reply after a discussion here. In view of this, I appeal to the Union Government to formulate a national Flood Control Policy. When you are issuing new

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National Education Policy, National Economic Policy and so many other policies, why are you not formulating a National Flood Control Policy? More and more areas are every year affected by droughts and floods. There is no proper planning at the Union level how to fight all these disasters and go to the root of the problem. I appeal to the Union Government to rise to the occasion and take positive steps to control the floods in the country.

19.00 hrs

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Haren Bhumij.

SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ (Dibrugarh): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir,....

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazaribagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we people also want to express our views. Hence this may be continued tomorrow also. This should not be done in a hurry.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will continue the debate. You will get a chance.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I agree with you. We will continue this debate because I know that many members would like to speak. We can close it now.

19.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 18, 1987/Sravana 27, 1909 (Saka)

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